

CATHOLIC • ACTION •

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January, 1939

“The Family” —
N. C. W. C. Study Topic For January
Pax Romana—
World Secretariate of C. U. Federations

The Catholic Press in 1938

Death of Bishop Lillis
Information — A New Feature
Indianapolis — New N. C. C. W. Unit
Catholic Youth Activities in the Southland
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II—Membership and Affiliation

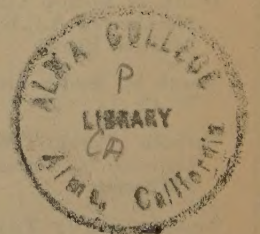
Our Common Catholic Interests:

Keep the Spanish Embargo Committee Formed by Catholic
Group—Monsignor Ready Calls Those Aiding Communist
Propaganda Enemies of Democracy—Calendar of Scheduled
Catholic Meetings and Events

Month by Month with the N. C. W. C.

A NATIONAL MONTHLY—OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

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FACTS ABOUT THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

∴: What It Is — What It Does ∴:

"This organization (the N. C. W. C.) is not only useful, but necessary. . . . We praise all who in any way cooperate in this great work."—POPE PIUS XI.

The National Catholic Welfare Conference was organized in September, 1919.

The N. C. W. C. is a common agency acting under the authority of the bishops to promote the welfare of the Catholics of the country.

It has for its incorporated purposes "unifying, coordinating and organizing the Catholic people of the United States in works of education, social welfare, immigrant aid and other activities."

It comprises the following departments and bureaus:

EXECUTIVE—Bureaus maintained: *Immigration, Youth, National Center Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Catholic Information, Publications, Business and Auditing, and CATHOLIC ACTION, official organ, N. C. W. C.*

EDUCATION—Divisions: *Statistics and Information, Teachers' Registration, Library.*

PRESS—Serves the Catholic press in the United States and abroad with regular news, features, editorial and pictorial services.

SOCIAL ACTION—Covers the fields of *Industrial Relations, International Affairs, Civic Education, Social Welfare, Family Life and Rural Life.*

LEGAL—Serves as a clearing house of information on federal, state and local legislation.

LAY ORGANIZATIONS—Includes the National Council of Catholic Men and the National Council of Catholic Women, which maintain at N. C. W. C. headquarters permanent representations in the interests of the Catholic laity. These councils function through some 3,500 affiliated societies—national, state, diocesan, district, local and parish; also through units of the councils in many of the dioceses.

CATHOLIC ACTION STUDY—Devoted to research and reports as to pronouncements, methods, programs and achievements in the work of Catholic Action at home and abroad.

The N. C. C. M. maintains at its national headquarters a *Catholic Evidence Bureau*, sponsors a weekly nation-wide radio *Catholic Hour* over the network of the National Broadcasting Company, and conducts a Catholic Radio Bureau.

The N. C. C. W. maintains in Washington, D. C., the *National Catholic School of Social Service*.

The Conference is conducted by an administrative board composed of ten archbishops and bishops aided by seven assistant bishops.

Each department of the N. C. W. C. is administered by an episcopal chairman.

Through the general secretary, chief executive officer of the Conference, the reports of the departments and information on the general work of the headquarters' staff are sent regularly to the members of the administrative board.

The administrative bishops of the Conference report annually upon their work to the Holy See.

Annually at the general meeting of the bishops, detailed reports are submitted by the administrative bishops of the Conference and authorization secured for the work of the coming year.

No official action is taken by any N. C. W. C. department without authorization of its episcopal chairman.

No official action is taken in the name of the whole Conference without authorization and approval of the administrative board.

It is not the policy of the N. C. W. C. to create new organizations.

It helps, unifies, and leaves to their own fields those that already exist.

It aims to defend and to advance the welfare both of the Catholic Church and of our beloved Country.

It seeks to inform the life of America of right fundamental principles of religion and morality.

It is a central clearing house of information regarding activities of Catholic men and women.

All that are helped may play their part in promoting the good work and in maintaining the common agency, the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

CATHOLIC ACTION records monthly the work of the Conference and its affiliated organizations. It presents our common needs and opportunities. Its special articles are helpful to every Catholic organization and individual.

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CATHOLIC ACTION

"CATHOLIC ACTION consists not merely of the pursuits of personal Christian perfection, which is however before all others its first and greatest end, but it also consists of a true apostolate in which Catholics of every social class participate, coming thus to be united in thought and action around those centers of sound doctrine and multiple social activity, legitimately constituted and, as a result, aided and sustained by the authority of the bishops."

—Pope Pius XI.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

VOL. XXI, No. 1



JANUARY, 1939

OUR COMMON CATHOLIC INTERESTS

"Keep the Spanish Embargo" Aim of Catholic Group

DURING the next few weeks throughout the country Catholics and non-Catholics, too, it is believed, will have occasion to give serious thought and, it is hoped, active cooperation to the appeal and objectives of a group recently formed under Catholic auspices and entitled the "Keep the Spanish Embargo Committee." This committee comprises Catholics and non-Catholics, and is headed by Louis Kenedy, of New York City, president of the National Council of Catholic Men. Edward J. Heffron, executive secretary of that organization, has been appointed committee secretary.

Other members of this committee announced to date are: Most Rev. Michael J. Curley, Archbishop of Baltimore; Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready, general secretary, National Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington; Rt. Rev. John A. Ryan, director, Social Action Department, National Catholic Welfare Conference, Washington; Rt. Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, Catholic University of America, Washington; Irwin Laughlin, Washington, U. S. Ambassador to Spain, 1929-1933; William Franklin Sands, retired diplomat, Washington; Miss Agnes Regan, Washington; Dr. Herbert Wright, professor of international law, Catholic University of America, Washington; Ogden H. Hammond, Bernardsville, N. J., U. S. Ambassador to Spain, 1925-1929; Ellery Sedgwick, retired editor, *Atlantic Monthly*, Boston; The Reverend Frances X. Talbot, S.J., editor of *America*, New York; Alfred E. Smith, New York; John V. Farrow, Hollywood; William Thomas Walsh, New York; Victor F. Ridder, New York; Ward Clarke, New York; Dr. Lewis M. Mooney, New York; Martin H. Carmody, Grand Rapids, Mich., supreme knight of the Knights of Columbus; William H. McCarthy, San

Francisco; Benjamin H. Swint, M.D., Charleston, W. Va.; and Joseph Broderick, Providence, R. I.

The committee has been organized to oppose the movement started by persons in this country friendly to the Spanish Leftists to lift the embargo which the United States Government has declared against both factions in the civil war in Spain.

The initial activity of the group, the address of which is 1312 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., is the circulation of a petition to be sent to the President of the United States and to members of Congress. This petition states:

"We, the undersigned, respectfully petition the Congress, for as long as we shall adhere to the general policy of neutrality as enunciated in the Act of August 31, 1935, to retain on our statute books the further and corollary principle enunciated in the Act of May 1, 1937, extending the original Act to include civil as well as international conflicts."

Instructions sent to those who are circulating the "Keep the Spanish Embargo" petition point out that the petition commits its signatories to only one thing: "That if we are to have a neutrality law at all, it should be genuinely 'neutral' and should not permit the taking of sides—either side—by our Government in the Spanish War."

The committee also has laid plans for a mass meeting to be held in Washington, D. C., on the evening of January 9, the same day that a convention will be held whose theme will be "Lift the Embargo." Among the speakers at the mass meeting will be Rt. Rev. Fulton J. Sheen, Aileen O'Brien, the Honorable Irwin Laughlin, and the Honorable Martin Conboy.

THE need of such a group as the recently formed "Keep the Spanish Embargo Committee" was recently made evident by the Right Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready, general secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

Monsignor Ready Calls Those Aiding Communist Propaganda Enemies of Democracy

Speaking last month in New

York City at the annual Communion breakfast of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, Monsignor Ready voiced the opinion that the United States is "in a state of siege by propaganda" and warned that it is against influential groups of prominent citizens who lend their names and prestige to Communistic-directed programs that the cause of true democracy must be defended.

"We are astonished," Monsignor Ready said, "when prominent citizens of our country give their names and prestige to Communistic-directed programs to aid the Spanish Soviet cabal. We are surprised when Communistically regimented groups of American citizens support a so-called 'Peace Act' which would make the United States an ally of the Barcelona regime which ruthlessly murdered priests and nuns and other defenseless citizens and which to this day belies its vaunted democratic character by proscribing public worship and all religious organizations.

"It is against such influential groups that the cause of true democracy must be defended. . . . Friends of this and leagues of that are all about us, and the consequent confusion is a challenge to national sanity."

"In the last Congress," Monsignor Ready continued,

"the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy called for the lifting of the embargo on Loyalist Spain. With the American League for Peace and Democracy it organized a campaign to send resolutions, telegrams, and letters to the President, to the Secretary of State, and to select delegations to visit Congressmen and Senators in the interest of Red Spain. These groups cannot be sincere in their support of legislation which they would be the first to condemn under reversed circumstances."

"The preservation of democracy demands more than a mere natural humanitarianism," Monsignor Ready said, adding: "It needs that which the founders of this Republic recognized as the essential characteristic for a just society—the free exercise and untrammelled diffusion of religion."

Monsignor Ready told the alumnae that if they know the great Encyclical Letters of His Holiness Pope Pius XI "as cultured Catholic women should know them," "there is no power on earth that can deprive you of a position of true leadership in your communities."

"In those great Encyclicals," he said, "there is a program for the reconstruction of our national life on the plan and pattern of true morality. Such a statement of principles will commend itself to every worthy citizen of this nation, and it should be our ambition to make it known and appreciated. Those who differ from us in matters of faith will find companionship with us in the purpose of restoring to America the heritage lost while seeking the riches of Croesus and the strength of Atlas."

CALENDAR OF SCHEDULED CATHOLIC MEETINGS AND EVENTS

January, 1939

- 5-7—NURSING EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM, Washington, D. C.
- 16-17—CATHOLIC CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS (regional meeting), Detroit, Mich. (Originally announced for December, 1938)

February, 1939

- 11—NEW ENGLAND STUDENT PEACE FEDERATION, Worcester, Mass.
- 11—CAPITAL STUDENT PEACE FEDERATION, Washington, D. C.
- 27-28—CATHOLIC CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS (regional meeting), Indianapolis, Ind. (Originally announced for March, 1939)

March, 1939

- 19-21—CATHOLIC CONFERENCE ON FAMILY LIFE, Washington, D. C.
- 25—CENTRAL STUDENT PEACE FEDERATION, Kansas City, Kans.

April, 1939

- 10-11—CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE—Annual conference, Washington, D. C.
- 12—STUDENT PEACE FEDERATIONS—Annual conference, Washington, D. C.
- 12-14—NATIONAL CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION—National convention, Washington, D. C.
- 12-14—CATHOLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION—Annual national conference, Washington, D. C.

May, 1939

- 7-15—GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY SESQUICENTENNIAL, Washington, D. C.
- 9-11—FIRST CENTENNIAL OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, Portland, Oreg.

June, 1939

- 22-24—CATHOLIC PRESS ASSOCIATION—Annual convention, New York, N. Y.

NOTE: Officials of national and state organizations of Catholic men and women are requested to advise N.C.W.C. headquarters of the dates of their respective meetings. These will be listed in future issues.



CATHOLIC PRESS *in* 1938

By

Burke Walsh

PRESENTS EDIFYING RECORD

IF EVER our Catholic editors needed an extra stimulus to carry on in the cause of Christ, that was given them on more than one occasion during 1938 by that valiant patron of the Catholic Press—His Holiness, Pope Pius XI. Reflecting the remarkable energy and zeal of our Supreme Pontiff, our Catholic editors, during the year just past, gave edifying evidence of their constant concern for the advance of religion, the welfare of society and the recognition of Catholic truth—all of which evoked the Holy Father's praise of the "solid achievements of American Catholic journalism" as expressed at the New Orleans Convention of the Catholic Press Association.

In the accompanying article, the assistant director of the *N. C. W. C. News Service* which serves more than 400 Catholic publications in the United States and elsewhere, tells in his characteristically illuminating and convincing manner, some of the "high spots" of Catholic journalism during 1938.

READERS of the Catholic Press reviewed in 1938 a parade of events that was engrossing if not always a source of happiness.

There was joy, for example, in the amazingly quick recovery of His Holiness Pope Pius XI from a serious illness, but there was sorrow and anxiety in the Sovereign Pontiff being stricken.

There was joy in the brilliantly successful International Eucharistic Congress at Budapest, and in the national demonstrations of faith in the United States, Canada, France, India, Australia, New Zealand, and elsewhere. There was sorrow in the continued persecution of religion in Spain, Mexico and Russia; in the deepening of religious and racial oppression in Germany, and in the introduction of discriminatory measures in other sections.

Inspiration of Holy Father's Leadership

To have read the Catholic Press in the year just gone was to be edified by the tremendous energy and zeal of the Holy Father. The Sovereign Pontiff's fearless leadership was more widely recognized in 1938 than perhaps ever before. The world turned to him in its dire need. When His Holiness was stricken with a sudden illness late last November, sincere sorrow was not confined to the 400,000,000 Catholics of the world by any means.

"No one can reproach Us with the charge that We failed to speak to mankind when it was necessary to save that which must be saved in the social, domestic and individual order," Pope Pius said last March. "We have always been firm in this proposal, and We will spend what remains of life in indicating evils and suggesting remedies, which are always to be found in the Catholic Church where Christ continues to live."

The Most Rev. John F. Noll, Bishop of Fort Wayne, made a compilation showing that in four months of

1938, Pope Pius XI spoke out a dozen times in forceful denunciation of the persecution of the Jews.

Exaggerated nationalism, which he called "a real malediction," also came in for frequent and vigorous condemnation by His Holiness. The Sovereign Pontiff issued solemn warnings against attacks on Catholic Action, rebuking those who pretended to fight Catholic Action but not the Church. In his Christmas message to the members of the Sacred College of Cardinals, Pope Pius referred to the approaching tenth anniversary of the Concordat between the Holy See and Italy, and deplored "the real and numerous vexations against Catholic Action," which he called "the pupil of Our eye." Repeatedly throughout the year, His Holiness urged prayers for peace. He was the first to offer prayers of thanksgiving when war clouds were swept away at the Munich conference.

Holy Father's Use of the Radio

His Holiness, who took occasion in 1938 to reemphasize the cordial harmony that must exist between religion and real science, made frequent use of the Vatican City radio station to send his voice to his spiritual children at far-off points. Pope Pius spoke to the pilgrims assembled at the International Eucharistic Congress in Budapest, and at the National Eucharistic Congresses in New Orleans and Quebec, and in September took to the air to urge the world to join with him in "most undaunted and insistent prayer" for the preservation of peace.

These are but a few of the very many highlights to be found in the activities of Pope Pius XI in 1938. Readers of the Catholic Press had before them a continuous picture of the Sovereign Pontiff's activities through the twelve months, many of the reports telling charming little incidents that illustrate well the kindly, fatherly solicitude of the Sovereign Pontiff for his spiritual children the world over.

The Catholic Press presented a continuous, authentic picture of the relations between the Holy See and Italy—always a topic of interest and importance. Readers of the Catholic Press saw Pope Pius rejoice in the good position of the Church in Italy at the dawn of 1938, and deplore the vexatious actions taken against Catholic Action toward the close of the year.

While the secular press was largely concerned with the persecution of the Jews, so far as news from Germany was concerned, readers of the Catholic Press were informed that the Catholic Church already was being oppressed in the Reich; that the Catholic championing of the Jewish rights had resulted in still severer persecution of the Church in that country, and that the Nazi intention obviously is to make the Catholic Church perish in the Reich. In this connection, the Catholic Press presented full, authentic reports on the position of the Church in Austria following the "anschluss," and gave its readers the facts concerning the position of His Eminence Theodore Cardinal Innitzer, Archbishop of Vienna, and his treatment at the hands of the Nazis.

The fact that the Nazis prevented German and Austrian Catholics from going to Budapest for the International Eucharistic Congress was fully reported in the Catholic Press.

It was only in the Catholic Press in 1938 that one had brought to his attention the vigorous Catholic life flourishing in Canada. It was only in the Catholic Press that one was brought to realize that the persecution of religion still goes on in Mexico, and that there has been no change in the drastic anti-religious Federal laws south of the Rio Grande.

Reports Feature Lima Conference

There were numerous Catholic "angles" to the Eighth Pan-American Conference at Lima, Peru, including the fact that a Catholic priest and a prominent Catholic layman were members of the United States delegation. These facts were available to the readers of the Catholic Press.

There were numerous news developments in Latin America in 1938 that were of special interest to Catholics. These ranged from the re-establishment of diplomatic relations with the Holy See, to great religious demonstrations, to the forwarding of plans for the erection of great religious monuments, to laws involving divorce, to Communist activities. A particularly interesting revelation by the Catholic Press was the fact that the intervention of Pope Pius XI led to the peaceful settlement of the bloody dispute between Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

Readers of the Catholic Press were informed not only about the restoration of Rheims Cathedral and the several largely attended religious congresses in France, but also that the Christian Labor Unions of

France were vindicated when the radical-inspired general strike collapsed in that country. The Christian Labor Unions opposed the strike and refused to stop work.

The part the Catholic Press has played in making known the truth about the situation in Spain is, or should be, well known. Had it not been for the Catholic Press it is possible that the United States would be seriously involved in the Spanish crisis. Not only has the Catholic Press made available to its readers the truth about General Franco's cause, but it has also done much to dissipate the strength of well-organized Spanish Leftist propaganda in the United States.

World-wide Coverage of Catholic Press

And so one might follow the trail of the Catholic Press around the world in 1938—to Ireland, where the partition question was and is one of prime importance; to England where organized Catholic Action grew apace in the last twelve months and where an Apostolic Delegate is being welcomed for the first time in centuries; to Scotland, where the Catholic population was put at 614,021 in 1938; to Wales, where the celebrated Bishop Donald Martin of Argyle and the Isles, died on December 6; to Belgium, where Communists were exceedingly active and where the cause for the beatification of Father Damien, Apostle of the Molokai leper colony, was introduced; to Holland, where Catholics joined with great enthusiasm in the jubilee of Queen Wilhelmina; to Russia, where the Godless were on the verge of reaching their highest accomplishment, the suppression of every manifestation of religious worship; to Yugoslavia, where the position of the Church is completely unsettled, due to the refusal of the Government to proceed with the ratification of the Concordat signed with the Holy See in 1935; to Palestine, disturbed with armed strife; to India, where the prospects for the Church were said to be "really wonderful"; to Africa, where a new Mission field was opened; to China, where apprehension was felt for the safety of Missionaries in the strife-torn areas and where the Government showed publicly its appreciation of the heroic labors exerted by Catholic priests and people to alleviate the suffering of the war's victims; to Japan, where the Catholic population was 111,870, and where the first native Archbishop of Tokyo was consecrated.

American Interest in Beatifications

The United States had an extraordinary interest in one of the three beatifications that took place at the Vatican in November. Blessed Frances Xavier Cabrini became the first citizen of this country to be declared "blessed," and the Catholic Press of the United States presented its readers with a detailed account of her life and works. The honors paid His Eminence George Cardinal Mundelein, Archbishop of Chicago, who offici-

ted at Mother Cabrini's beatification, also were of much interest.

The death of His Eminence Patrick Cardinal Hayes, Archbishop of New York, was one of the saddest events chronicled in the Catholic Press of the United States, and the Eighth National Eucharistic Congress, to which the Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans, was host, was one of the most joyful.

It was only in the Catholic Press that one got the full story of the warning issued by the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference against Catholic participation in the "Second World Youth Congress" held at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, last August. The Catholic Press also presented its readers with many details of the meeting itself that were not generally available in the secular press.

The appeal by the Bishops of the United States for the establishment of industrial and social peace in this country was a timely and highly important development, which was reported fully in the Catholic Press. There also one found recorded the work done by the N. C. W. C. Committee for Catholic Refugees from Germany.

Holy Father's Praise of N. C. W. C.

Impressive was the message from Pope Pius XI lauding "the past accomplishments of the National Catholic Welfare Conference" and stating that he "counts on the continuance of its highly useful functions in coordinating and unifying the activities of the Bishops."

While the Legion of Decency was pledged to oppose with every resource use of the motion picture screen for the dissemination of "false, atheistic, and immoral doctrines," the Bishops appointed a committee to seek ways and means of extending the campaign against salacious literature on a national scale. At the same time establishment of a National Catholic Youth Council was authorized, and a central office of Catholic information was set up at the headquarters of the N. C. W. C.

President Roosevelt's many references to the importance of religion and faith in the national life were recorded in the Catholic Press, as was his message to the Eighth National Eucharistic Congress, in which he expressed the hope that "the deliberations will quicken the spiritual life of all who participate and inspire them with new zeal for the work of the Master Whom we all serve."

Changes in Hierarchy Chronicled

The deaths of three members of the Hierarchy in the United States, and the resignations of two others were chronicled for the readers of the Catholic Press,

as were the ceremonies at which three Archbishops received the Pallium, the appointment of eight new Bishops, and the installation of two other Bishops as the heads of Sees.

America's zeal for missionary work at home and abroad was amply attested by the numerous impressive and colorful stories carried in the Catholic Press in 1938. So was the worth of various Catholic lay groups in dispatches dealing with their diverse activities.

The numerous activities of His Excellency the Most Rev. Amleto Giovanni Cicognani, Apostolic Delegate to the United States, gave ample testimony to the zealous interest which the Holy Father's representative has in the growth of the Church in this country. His discourses of a wide variety on religious and moral topics, reported fully in the Catholic Press, were veritable textbooks on Catholic teachings.

Interest taken by Catholics in numerous public questions, the New York electorate's adoption of a constitutional provision guaranteeing free bus transportation to private and parochial, as well as public, school children; Catholic property damage in flood and hurricane disasters, the heroism of priests and religious in ministering to sufferers in all kinds of disasters, revision of the New Testament into modern English, and scores upon scores of other topics produced news stories of high interest and color.

Radical Propaganda Exposed

Communism and Communistic propaganda were prominently before the public in the year just gone. It is safe to say that the Catholic Press had not a little to do with bringing the evils of Communism to America's mind. To it is due the credit for exposing a number of subtle methods of radical propaganda.

When the confusion was the greatest as a result of action taken by the American Medical Association to investigate the materials, devices and procedures of contraception, it was the Catholic Press that led the way in clearing up the situation. It obtained from Dr. Irvin Abell, President of the A. M. A., the declaration that that organization "has always, and does now deprecate the existence of birth control clinics."

Passage by the National Assembly of the Philippine Commonwealth, by a two to one vote, of an act guaranteeing parents the right to have religious instruction provided their children in public schools, and its veto by President Manuel L. Quezon, was a story which attracted widespread interest for weeks.

So was the warning issued by the Most Rev. Edwin V. Byrne, Bishop of San Juan, that birth control, sterilization and so-called eugenics laws being experimented with in Puerto Rico might be tried in continental United States, after being experimented with in the insular possession.

PAX ROMANA

IN THIS article the function and importance of the Catholic World Secretariate of National University Federations are discussed in a most enlightening manner.

By

Edward J. Kirchner
International President of Pax Romana

IN VIEW of the approaching World Congress of Catholic Students, to be held at the Catholic University of America (in conjunction with its Golden Jubilee program), and Fordham University, August 26 to September 9, 1939, it has been thought advisable to present in CATHOLIC ACTION a series of articles concerning the International Secretariate of Catholic Students known as Pax Romana; the theme of the World Conference; student and youth movements abroad and the recent activities in our own country to bring about unity and solidarity among the different university Catholic organizations of America.

The author of this series has had the experience of working in an official capacity with various student organizations for the past seven years. In his present position as world head of Catholic students, Mr. Kirchner has traveled extensively studying student and youth movements in a number of foreign countries. He is the national executive secretary of Theta Kappa Phi, collegiate fraternity for Catholic men; the national director of the National Federation of Catholic College Students, and has held various offices in the Newman Club and similar student organizations. As general chairman of the coming Pax Romana Congress, he is stationed at the Catholic University of America.

PAX ROMANA owes its foundation, at Fribourg, Switzerland, in July, 1921, to the university Catholics of Spain, Holland, and Switzerland, three countries that remained neutral during the Great War. Its founders hoped to help university Catholics through offering them some organization through which they might meet, get to know each other, and work together to lessen the barriers of nationalism and of mistrust engendered by the war years. Their efforts have been unusually successful. In the 17 years of its existence, Pax Romana has succeeded in uniting 45 university Catholic federations, representing some 32 countries, in Europe, in North and South America, and in Asia. The greeting that is sent each year to the Pax Romana Congress by Cardinal Pacelli, in the name of the Sovereign Pontiff, shows how it is esteemed by the highest ecclesiastical authorities.

What Is Pax Romana?

Pax Romana is not a society of individual Catholic university people; thus it is, for instance, no mere association of Catholic student pacifists throughout the world. It is rather a union or confederation of the university Catholic federations in the different countries. Moreover, it seeks to fashion its essentially live and constructive policy upon the immediate requirements of the national federations, which together give it life.

Experience has shown that it is an utter impossibility to form an educated Catholic opinion without a fully organized and well equipped university Catholic federation. The full development of the Catholic student cannot be achieved if he is left isolated. He needs the help of a society with all the stimulus of good fellow-

ship, good example, and infectious enthusiasm. Furthermore, in any given country, it is in the interests of such societies themselves to link up in order to exchange ideas, compare notes, and thus help one another. Pax Romana fulfills a purpose similar to this on the international plane. Its chief task is to serve as a link in the same way between the various national federations. It is true that the federations remain completely autonomous, and indeed, preserve intact their full individuality, corresponding—as it often does—to the characteristics of this or that nation and the traditions of its university life. Yet, it is clear that these university Catholic federations are faced with similar problems. How to secure the development of the Catholic undergraduate to full stature, spiritually, intellectually, socially, professionally, is alike the chief concern of every Catholic university group, whether it be in London, Rome, New York—or Warsaw!

Holy Father's Call to University Catholics

Especially does this cooperation appear necessary today, when the university Catholic movement everywhere is faced with conditions quite without precedent. The call to Catholic Action directed by the Pope to all lay people, and especially to educated lay people, has obviously assigned to university Catholics a task of immense importance. The whole Christian world has recently become more deeply aware of the powerful influence of the professional life lived in accordance with Christian principles; and in the meantime the different professions, doctors, lawyers, teachers, and the rest, are all troubled by grave problems—problems which the secular instruction of a non-Catholic university is, perhaps, not competent to solve. In these

hard times, Catholic students cannot, even if they would, remain indifferent to the far-reaching, social and economic questions of the day. Moreover, modern political movements, in many countries, make a special appeal to the enthusiasm of undergraduates, Catholic and non-Catholic alike. Therefore, in a world of so much social, economic and political experiment, of so many unexplored problems, of so much unprecedented activity, it is not only advisable, but even essential, that those who bear the responsibility of leading Catholic youth at the universities, should pool their experience and cooperate to the full.

The Work of Pax Romana

How, then, is this cooperation provided for within the framework of Pax Romana? Every year an international congress is arranged to discuss some single topic which appears to be to the fore in university Catholic circles. Thus, in 1935, the subject was the religious education of the undergraduate; in 1936, the press, the cinema and the radio; in 1937, unemployment in the professions; in 1938, the Catholic student and Communism; while for the 1939 Congress, the topic will be "The Role of the University in National Catholic Action." Various enquiries, circulars, and articles in the journal pave the way for these discussions.

The Journal *Pax Romana* is published ten times a year. Thus, in each month of the academic year, it gives its readers a full account of Pax Romana, the achievements of the affiliated federations, and the work of its sub-secretariates.

The sub-secretariates were established to be of use to the federations, in matters of special importance for their work, by collecting information, particulars of courses of study, and suggested bibliographies. Pax Romana now has five general sub-secretariates—students, missions, "Pro Oriente," University Press, and social action, and four professional sub-secretariates—medicine, pharmacy, law, and literature. At the annual congress each of these organizes separately, so that the students of the same faculty may discuss problems of special interest.

The congress is preceded by a study week for the leaders of the different federations, so that these may examine thoroughly the various problems of Catholic Action among university people. The study week of August, 1939, will be devoted entirely to the student apostolate in university Catholic Action, and its relationship to diocesan and national Catholic Action.

Function of the General Secretariate

Meanwhile, throughout the academic year, the General Secretariate (19 Place du College, Fribourg, Switzerland) tries to keep in touch with the different federations, helping those in need with suggestions, advice, and literature, and sometimes by personal visits.

There have been cases where Pax Romana has actually given material assistance to Catholic students of distressed countries. Indeed, its inception was bound up with the united effort to help German and Austrian students who, just after the war, were in dire circumstances. At present Pax Romana is launching a similar appeal to help the Catholic students of Spain in their immense task of restoring the buildings and libraries destroyed in the Civil War, so that they may soon take their place again in the religious and cultural life of the country.

Advantages of National Federations

The part that Pax Romana is called upon to play in the many countries where Catholic university students are not yet fully organized is still more important. In some countries the mere fact that Pax Romana can admit only national federations to membership has itself proved a powerful incentive, leading existing local societies to form a federation. This was more or less the case in Great Britain. In other countries, Pax Romana has encouraged the foundation of university Catholic federations, as, for instance, quite recently here in America, where students of Catholic colleges and universities have founded the National Federation of Catholic College Students. In many other countries, Pax Romana has itself taken the initiative in forming university Catholic groups; and, to give but a few examples, the Catholic student federations of Greece, Finland, and Bulgaria were the direct result of its intervention. Finally, in countries where there were several federations of Catholic students (as, for example, the five student federations of Czechoslovakia for Catholic Czechs, Croats, Germans, Hungarians and Slavs) Pax Romana has actively supported their co-operation. It has thus helped to bring together educated Catholics of different nationalities within the same country. And in certain parts of Central and Eastern Europe, this is no small service to the cause of peace.

Interest in Catholic Students Abroad

Pax Romana is able to give considerable help to large numbers of Catholic students studying abroad. For a long time these students were completely isolated. Pax Romana induced most of its federations to take an interest in these exchange students so that they now have access to university Catholic societies, where they are welcomed and may gather new ideas. On their part, the larger federations agreed to set up foreign visit bureaux to arrange exchange *au pair*, and paying guest visits, thus facilitating Catholic student foreign travel by placing visitors in Catholic families or hostels. Thus, Pax Romana has itself become, in a special way, the federation of Catholic students abroad, and has been particularly helpful to them. This year Theta Kappa Phi, national collegiate (*Turn to page 10*)

DEATH of BISHOP LILLIS

Former Member of N.C.W.C. Administrative Board Dies at Seventy-seven

IT IS the sad duty of CATHOLIC ACTION to record the death on December 29 of The Most Reverend Thomas F. Lillis, Bishop of Kansas City, Mo., and for 11 years active in the conduct of the N.C.W.C.

Death came to the 77-year-old prelate, one of the best known and beloved members of the American Hierarchy, following a month's illness.

A bishop for more than 30 years, priest for half a century, Bishop Lillis was born within the limits of the diocese he governed for 26 years. Ordained in 1885 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Kansas City, the future bishop was there consecrated as Bishop of Leavenworth in 1904, and following distinguished services in several assignments as assistant and pastor, was named vicar general of the diocese in 1903, Co-adjutor Bishop of Kansas City in 1910 with right of succession, and became Ordinary of the diocese upon Bishop Hogan's death.

FOR a number of years, Bishop Lillis was the choice of his fellow members of the Hierarchy to serve as secretary of the General Meeting of the Bishops of the United States held at the Catholic University of America each fall. Eventually, Bishop Lillis had to decline this office because of the press of other duties. He was elected to the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in 1924, and was reelected each successive year until 1935, when he retired. He served as acting chairman of the Administrative Board following the retirement of Archbishop Edward J. Hanna of San Francisco in March, 1935, and for a number of years as episcopal chairman of the N. C. W. C. Social Action Department.

Speaking on the occasion of Bishop Lillis' golden sacerdotal jubilee, Archbishop McNicholas, referring to Bishop Lillis' long service to Church and country through the N. C. W. C., said:

"Bishop Lillis has been at this Conference table during many long years and has rendered signal services to his brother Bishops and the dioceses of this country, services that may never be told in the story of his life nor recorded in the history of the Church, but services, nevertheless, that we, his colleagues at the Conference table, know to be invaluable. Bishop Lillis has always been the kind father, the sane counsellor, the prudent prelate, ever considerate of the priests and the Catholic laity of the United States, ever anxious to promote the extension of the Kingdom of God and the welfare of his country. Today, Bishop Lillis, as chairman of the Conference, commands the respect and the loyal devotion of his brother counsellors in the Hierarchy."

THOSE of us at national headquarters who for more than a decade were privileged several times each year to receive Bishop Lillis' friendly greetings and kindly counsel feel deeply the loss of this courteous, able, and self-effacing prelate. It is certain that, like his departed confreres in the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference since 1919, all of happy memory—Archbishop Dowling, Bishops Muldoon, Russell, Walsh of Portland, Me., and McDevitt—his happiness in eternity will be uppermost in our grateful thoughts and fervent prayers. *May his soul rest in peace!*

Pax Romana—Continued from page 9

fraternity for Catholic men is arranging to grant scholarships to foreign students (especially Austrian and German) and to house students visiting America.

This work for foreign student travel represents a small yet real contribution towards the realization of the Peace of Christ, which brings together many hundreds of young educated Catholics from different countries, affording them a fuller knowledge and understanding of the Catholic life of the country which plays host. Thus congresses have been held in most of the European countries; in Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Holland, Poland, Great Britain, Spain, Germany, France, Luxemburg, the Vatican, Czechoslovakia, and Jugoslavia. In August and September congressists will be received in America. The various publications of Pax Romana help to interest educated Catholic young men and women in the Catholic culture of other countries, and to create an atmosphere of international understanding and Christian fellowship among the educated Catholic youth of the whole world. The union in Pax Romana of Catholic students of the Eastern Rites Church and of the federations of Latin America or the Far East, is a constant reminder of the universality of the

Catholic Church, which for university Catholics thus becomes a living thing!

Lastly, a brief word on the role of Pax Romana as one international organization among many. Protestant, Anglican and orthodox students long ago formed a powerful international union in the Student Christian Movement. Jewish students have their organizations; Socialist and Communist students and other similar student groups are also powerfully organized on an international basis. If Catholic students had remained without their organization in Pax Romana, they would have been unrepresented in the work—sometimes very useful—that is being done on an international plane, especially by such bodies as the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation of the League of Nations. In the student committee of this body, Pax Romana exerts considerable influence; and by its wise yet sincere participation it makes known, in non-Catholic circles, the work that is being done by Catholic students. It is thus helping to refute those prejudiced people who look upon Catholic bodies as mere pious associations that do nothing of importance in the way of social work, and nothing of value in the professional field.

Information . . .

On Matters of Common Catholic Interest

Contributed by

Paul R. Martin-Dillon, Director,
N. C. W. C. Bureau of Information



IF PRESENT interest in the recently established Bureau of Information of the N. C. W. C. may be taken as an indication of the future, the time is not far distant when its influence will be felt in every part of the United States. Diocesan directors appointed by The Most Reverend Ordinaries are now functioning in about 85 dioceses of the United States, including Puerto Rico and Alaska, and there is every evidence that most of them at least, have caught the spirit of the movement and are already accomplishing splendid results. It is planned to make this page a regular monthly feature of CATHOLIC ACTION.

WITHIN the next month or so it is likely many of the diocesan directors will have organized the lay committees which according to the plan outlined by the most reverend bishops, who comprise the Administrative Board of the N. C. W. C., will cooperate with the diocesan directors to make their work effective. A definite program of action based on the original prospectus drawn up by the bishops over a year ago, is now in course of preparation. This plan will include many of the suggestions made by the directors themselves during their meeting, which was held in Washington on October 6. Once this plan is in the hands of the directors, they will be able to proceed with the work of bringing their local organizations into being.

THE complete proceedings of the directors' meeting will likewise be ready for distribution shortly. It is being printed in booklet form and will be a verbatim report of all that took place at the meeting. In preparing this rather elaborate report the Central Office has had in mind especially the members of the Hierarchy and likewise those Diocesan directors who could not attend the meeting in person.

THE distribution of pamphlets setting forth Catholic doctrine and the Catholic viewpoint on important questions of the day, was considered at length by the diocesan directors and all were impressed by the work along this line which, under the inspiring leadership of Bishop Duffey, is being done in the Diocese of Buffalo. It is noteworthy that in this diocese a group of laymen figure prominently in this activity.

Since the meeting the Central Office has received word from many dioceses where stress is being laid on the importance of pamphlet distribution. In the Diocese of Leavenworth, for instance, the apostolate of the written word is flourishing and news comes from the diocesan director of information of that diocese that a copy of a splendid pamphlet entitled "The Truth About Catholics" has been placed in every non-Catholic home in the diocese. Other directors have told the Central Office that they too have used this particular pamphlet with splendid results and that through it thousands of non-Catholics have been given a definite idea of the fundamentals of Catholic doctrine.

In this connection it is a matter of regret that we must record at this time, the recent death of Mr. Peter O'Donnell, the zealous layman who made the pamphlet possible.

THE office of the diocesan director of information for the Archdiocese of New York has a way of doing things that has brought joy into the Central Office at Washington. Monsignor Keegan, who is the diocesan director in New York, is an extremely busy man, being executive director of the Catholic Charities in the vast eastern metropolis. However, he has found time to cooperate with the Central Office in many ways and has procured information which required hours of painstaking research and investigation. Other directors to whom it has been necessary to appeal for help, have been equally cooperative and their work is greatly appreciated. New York is mentioned in particular because of the involved nature of the requests sent that office.

ONE of the most interesting cases brought to the attention of the Central Office had its origin in the Diocese of Detroit, where Father C. A. Murphy heads a bureau of information that is accomplishing results along many lines.

Father Murphy already has a group of laymen cooperating with his bureau and it was one of these lay helpers that discovered in a popular magazine an article which reflected discredit upon the Catholic priesthood. The matter was brought to the attention of the Central Office and efforts were made immediately to get to the bottom of the situation. It was necessary that court records be examined in Southern California, and Father Dunne, director of information of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, did this work so promptly and efficiently that within a few days the Central Office was in full possession of all the facts of the case.

A courteous letter was then sent to the editor of the magazine in question, calling his attention to the fact that an error had been made in the article he had published which had caused grave injustice to all Catholics. The editor replied without delay, promised complete retraction in an early issue of his periodical and sent the Central Office, for its approval, a copy of this retraction.

ANOTHER matter of importance now occupying the attention of the Central Office, is an advertisement which has been appearing in various newspapers, and which Catholics consider as being sacrilegious as well as placing one of our most cherished beliefs in an entirely false light. Through the splendid cooperation given by one diocesan director, it is hoped that this advertising will be stopped and those responsible for it exposed.

THE importance of the radio as a means of reaching millions of non-Catholics who never read a Catholic publication or hear a Catholic speaker was stressed during the October meeting of the diocesan directors.

Evidently what was said on this subject at that time is rapidly bringing forth good results, as several directors are now planning Catholic broadcasts, which will be made from local radio stations. Several of these directors have written the Central Office for information and their requests have been turned over to Mr. Edward J. Heffron, executive secretary of the National Council of Catholic Men, which sponsors the Catholic Hour. Mr. Heffron is in a position to give valuable advice to all those who desire to present local broadcasts of a Catholic nature.

(Continued on page 15)

MONTH *by* MONTH

CATHOLIC ACTION

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WELFARE CONFERENCE

"We have grouped together, under the National Catholic Welfare Conference, the various agencies by which the cause of religion is furthered. Each of these, continuing its own special work in its chosen field, will now derive additional support through general cooperation."

—From the 1919 Pastoral Letter of the
Archbishops and Bishops of the U. S.

N. C. W. C. Administrative Board

MOST REV. EDWARD MOONEY, Archbishop of Detroit, chairman of the Administrative Board and episcopal chairman of the Executive Department; **MOST REV. JOHN B. PETERSON**, Bishop of Manchester, vice chairman of the Administrative Board and episcopal chairman of the Department of Education; **MOST REV. JOHN A. DUFFY**, Bishop of Buffalo, secretary of the Administrative Board; **MOST REV. FRANCIS C. KELLEY**, Bishop of Oklahoma City and Tulsa, treasurer of the Administrative Board; **MOST REV. SAMUEL A. STRITCH**, Archbishop of Milwaukee, episcopal chairman, Department of Catholic Action Study; **MOST REV. HUGH C. BOYLE**, Bishop of Pittsburgh, episcopal chairman of the Legal Department; **MOST REV. JOSEPH F. RUMMEL**, Archbishop of New Orleans, episcopal chairman of the Department of Lay Organizations; **MOST REV. EDWIN V. O'HARA**, Bishop of Great Falls and episcopal chairman of the Social Action Department; **MOST REV. MARK GANNON**, Bishop of Erie, episcopal chairman of the Press Department; **MOST REV. JOHN GREGORY MURRAY**, Archbishop of St. Paul.

Assistant Bishops, Administrative Board

MOST REV. EDWARD F. HOBAN, Bishop of Rockford; **MOST REV. EMMET M. WALSH**, Bishop of Charleston; **MOST REV. KARL J. ALTER**, Bishop of Toledo; **MOST REV. FRANCIS P. KEOUGH**, Bishop of Providence; **MOST REV. WALTER A. FOERY**, Bishop of Syracuse; and **MOST REV. BARTHOLOMEW J. EUSTACE**, Bishop of Camden.

RIGHT REV. MSGR. MICHAEL J. READY
General Secretary

CHARLES A. McMAHON
Editor

Opinions expressed in articles published in this magazine are to be regarded as those of the respective contributors. They do not necessarily carry with them the formal approval of the Administrative Board, National Catholic Welfare Conference.

Cardinal Maglione Praises U. S. Bishops For Concern in Religious Instruction Program

A LETTER from His Eminence, Luigi Cardinal Maglione, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation of the Council, praising the report of the meetings of the Bishops of the United States and stressing the pleasure of the Congregation at the concern in this country for religious instruction, especially of adults, was received last month by The Most Reverend Edward Mooney, Archbishop of Detroit and chairman of the Administrative Board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

The text of the letter, which also praises the American Bishops' keen awareness of the needs of the times and commends highly their judgment in the adoption of means to meet those needs, follows:

"With great joy this Sacred Congregation has received reports of the work of the National Catholic Welfare Conference which demonstrate the concern of the Bishops of the United States in feeding the sheep consigned to their care.

"In the latest report forwarded by His Excellency, The Most Reverend Apostolic Delegate, under date of March 16, 1938, a source of particular pleasure was the daily increase of activities looking toward the furtherance of religious instruction, not only of children, but of youth and of all the faithful of adult age even by the aids which modern times have introduced into the man-made arts. Indeed it is matter for no little praise that you have realized the needs of the times and have foreseen by what means growing evils are best met.

"Upon this concern of yours, as equally upon your zeal in other matters of the pastoral office, I offer to Your Excellency and to Their Eminences and Excellencies, Your Brethren, deserved congratulations, entertaining the greatest hope that with the aid of Divine grace, from your zeal and diligence, increasing fruit will spring for the good of souls and of the Church."

Archbishop Mooney Joins Religious Leaders In Resolution Scoring Persecution by Reich

THE MOST REVEREND EDWARD MOONEY, Archbishop of Detroit and episcopal chairman of the N. C. W. C. Administrative Board, is one of the signatories of a joint Christmastide resolution issued by Catholic and Protestant religious leaders condemning the persecution of religion by the German Reich and reminding all citizens of their Christian duty to pray and labor for the reign of peace and the increased glory of God among men of good will.

Mindful of the twofold persecution of Jews and Christians in the Reich, the religious leaders "acknowledge our responsibility to seek to mitigate their tragic lot and commend them and their sufferings to our brethren of every Christian confession."

The resolution asserts that "all totalitarianism whether Communist or Fascist is, in its full implications, incompatible with Christianity," and that its pressure upon the liberties and faith of Christians is "a threat, not only to the survival of Christian ideals, but also to the maintenance of civilized order in society."

Signatories of the joint resolution, besides Archbishop Mooney, included The Reverend Henry St. George Tucker, presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church; The Reverend George Butterick, President of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, with its 25 constituent bodies; The Reverend L. R. Scarborough, President of the Southern Baptist Convention; and Willis M. Everett, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

Radio Articles by N. C. C. M. Secretary Made Available in Pamphlet Form

THE Catholic Radio Bureau of the National Council of Catholic Men has published in pamphlet form two articles on the subject of "Radio and the Rights of Religion," written by Edward J. Heffron, Executive Secretary of the N. C. C. M.

One article, "The Positive Right," was originally published in CATHOLIC ACTION, official organ of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, under the title, "Use the Radio," while the other, "The Negative Right," was published in *Columbia*, organ of the Knights of Columbus, under the title, "This Freedom of the Air."

A limited number of the pamphlets are available without charge. Address the National Council of Catholic Men at national headquarters.

with the N. C. W. C.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL MEMBERS OF OUR N.C.W.C. FAMILY

GRATEFUL for the support and interest of subscribers and readers of CATHOLIC ACTION, its editor takes this occasion to congratulate all organization and individual members of the N.C.W.C. family upon their notable contributions to the advance of Catholic Action during 1938 and to wish them every spiritual and material blessing during 1939.

IN view of the threat throughout the world, including our own beloved United States, to Christian ideals—religious, social and economic—it would seem that the year 1939 offers to all of us the opportunity for a more militant striving through united Catholic Action for the defense of Christian principles and the advance of Christ's Kingdom.

A VALUED Irish Christmas card, just received, carries this significant greeting: "May the road rise with you and the wind be always behind you!"

IN the spirit of these words may the striving of all of us for the advance of religion and the welfare of our beloved country attain to greater heights in 1939 than ever before; and may the prayers and inspiring accomplishments of our co-workers in the N.C.W.C. family be the favoring wind at our backs.

OUR readers will note that with this issue CATHOLIC ACTION begins volume XXI and so enters upon its journalistic majority. Its fledgling period has been pleasant and we hope, profitable. May its more mature years bring even greater satisfaction!

Monsignor Fulton J. Sheen Begins Ninth "Catholic Hour" Series of Broadcasts

THE RIGHT REVEREND MONSIGNOR FULTON J. SHEEN, of the Catholic University of America, observed his ninth year as a speaker on the "Catholic Hour," produced by the National Council of Catholic Men and broadcast each Sunday over the NBC red network from 6 to 6.30 p. m. Eastern Standard Time, when he delivered his first address this season on January 1.

Monsignor Sheen's broadcasts this year, as in the last two years, are divided into two parts: the first, extending from New Year's Day to the first Sunday of Lent, is on "Social Freedom"; the second, extending from the first Sunday of Lent to Easter, is on "Personal Freedom." The individual titles of Monsignor Sheen's addresses are as follows:

January 1, "The Relevance of God"; January 8, "False Liberty"; January 15, "True Liberty"; January 22, "The Economic Guarantee of Liberty"; January 29, "Capitalism and Property"; February 5, "Labor and Property"; February 12, "Liberty and the Republic"; February 19, "Freedom and Religion." These titles are under the general theme, "Social Freedom."

Addresses in the second part of the series will consider the Seven Last Words on the Cross as they refer to the Seven Deadly Sins. The titles are: February 25, "The First Word: Anger"; March 5, "The Second Word: Envy"; March 12, "The Third Word: Lust"; March 19, "The Fourth Word: Pride"; March 26, "The Fifth Word: Gluttony"; April 2, "The Sixth Word: Sloth"; April 7, "The Seventh Word: Covetousness." On Easter Sunday Monsignor Sheen will talk on "Closed Doors."

Bishops' "Christian Democracy" Pastoral Extolled by Congressman McCormack

THE pastoral letter of the American Hierarchy urging a campaign for "a Christian concept of citizenship" was designated in a statement issued last month by Representative John W. McCormack, of Massachusetts, "a powerful, a constructive, and a practical manner of meeting among Catholics and the many others influenced thereby, the subversive influences and movements existing in our own country and throughout the world."

Congressman McCormack said it is necessary to take "affirmative action to protect and preserve those truths and

ideals, spiritual and governmental, that we believe in." He declared "we can no longer sit idly by and allow the forces of hate and destruction to carry on." "It is not necessary for us to engage in methods or policies of hate to meet the existing hate," he added.

Protective Legislation for Women Asked of Lima Congress by N. C. W. C. Officials

DURING the important deliberations last month of the Eighth Pan American Congress at Lima, The Right Reverend Monsignor Michael J. Ready, General Secretary of the N. C. W. C., on behalf of the Administrative Board of the N. C. W. C., sent to Secretary Cordell Hull, head of the United States delegation to the Congress, a cablegram urging that any resolutions introduced concerning the political and social status of women contain a recognition of basic human rights and Christian standards. The National Council of Catholic Women sent a similar message to Lima.

The message sent by Monsignor Ready to Secretary Hull said: "Authorized by Administrative Board, National Catholic Welfare Conference, respectfully urge recognition basic human rights and Christian standards any resolutions respecting women's political, social status."

The N. C. C. W. cablegram sent to Secretary Hull read: "National Council of Catholic Women deems imperative include in resolution civil, political rights women provision protective legislation safeguarding motherhood."

Word from Lima says that Miss Doris Stevens, American Equal Rights advocate, is there to propose action by the Congress on equal suffrage, but that the organization she represents is attempting to block any inclusion of clauses in the resolution looking to the preservation of existing protective legislation for women.

Delegates from several countries supported the movement for the safeguarding of motherhood and protective legislation.

Bound Volume of Holy Father's Encyclicals

Sixteen of the latest Encyclicals of His Holiness, Pope Pius XI, are available at N. C. W. C. headquarters in a beautifully bound volume. Price: \$2.75, postpaid.

CATHOLIC PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATIONS

THE National Catholic Welfare Conference Department of Education and the National Council of Catholic Women have since their organization cooperated in seeking to bring about and to encourage the development of Catholic parent-teacher associations, and the Women's Council has served as a clearing house for information. The time has now come when we face a tremendous need for more Catholic literature in this field. Hence, this very important series of articles, the second of which follows. The first article, published in the December, 1938, issue of CATHOLIC ACTION, was entitled "Aim and Purpose of Catholic Parent-Teacher Associations."

The value of these articles is that they reflect the minds of those who are carrying on in the field: Those who meet and know the problems and who are attempting the solution, accomplishing unmeasured good in the process. But at this season of the year, the P.-T. A. leaders, who are first of all home-makers, find themselves preoccupied and quite too busy to undertake an extra task of this kind. It has therefore devolved upon the National Headquarters to prepare this article.

It is the purpose of the National Council of Catholic Women to preserve each original article and all comments received for a possible publication at the close of the school year.

Pertinent to the subject are the recent syndicated articles by Reverend James M. Gillis, C.S.P., sent out by the N. C. W. C. News Service. Where these have not appeared in the diocesan paper, copies will be sent upon request to National Headquarters.

II. Membership and Affiliation

Organization of a Parent-Teacher Association

ASSUMING, first of all, the approval of the bishop, the consent of the pastor or priest in charge of the particular school, the willing cooperation of principal and sisters, what are some of the steps to be considered?

Membership:

Who is eligible to membership in a local parent-teacher group?

All the teachers in the school—religious and lay—and the parents—fathers and mothers—of any child attending the school. These teachers and parents are partners in the great work of rearing a child, or children. They have a common interest—a common bond.

It is sometimes expedient to invite all Catholic adults within a certain radius—that territory from which the school draws, or should draw, its pupils.

Notices should go out through the school, the diocesan and secular papers, and by direct invitation, or notice, to all the parents, that they may know that the project is being undertaken.

Meetings:

A general meeting called by the diocesan, district or parish chairman, as the case may be, provides an opportunity to explain fully the aims and purposes of the organization and to arrange for necessary committees to do the ground work toward organization.

Committees:

The following committees have been found helpful:

Constitution and By-Laws:

This committee will consult with the diocesan director of Catholic schools, and with officers of similar local or diocesan units, if any; prepare a simple draft of a constitution and by-laws to be presented at the organization meeting, considering the frequency of meetings, eligibility of officers and members, dues, etc.

At the present time, the same type of organization is variously named: "Home and School Association," "Mothers' Club," etc.

Nominating Committee:

The nominating committee will confer with the pastor and principal of the school as to the names to be presented for officers for the first year. Much of the success and effectiveness of the unit depends upon a choice of wise and tactful leaders at the beginning of the movement.

Committee on Membership:

The committee on membership can notify and make contacts personally when necessary in order to secure the interest of certain parents, who might be indifferent.

Committee on Publicity:

A committee on publicity is important not only at this stage, but a permanent committee should function whenever the group is active. Brief news releases carefully prepared

are acceptable in both Catholic and secular papers and do much to keep up the enthusiasm of the members.

Other Committees:

Since the "Activities" and the "Programming for Monthly Meetings" are each to be treated in a later issue, these important subjects will not be discussed at this time.

Affiliation

It is well at this point to look carefully into the matter of affiliation and cooperation; a careful line of demarcation will reveal the fact that there are certain organizations from which source material and helps in the technique of carrying on are obtainable; but which, by their very nature, differ in plan and purpose.

Because the Catholic parent-teacher association has a somewhat different aim, and because certain principles are invulnerable, care and discrimination must be used.

The Catholic parent-teacher association is particularly interested in assisting the school, never in interfering with the curriculum or the management. These tasks rest upon the director and teachers.

Secular Organizations and Magazines

To a Catholic, the family is the unit of society as well as of government. Therefore, any discussion which implies a lack of stability in this institution or in the sanctity of marriage is taboo.

Sometimes, secular articles can be deleted of such undesirable implications or comments; again, the whole article may have to be re-written, impregnating it with Catholic truth.

Cooperation need not mean affiliation. Again, it is possible to cooperate with and to have mutual helpful relations with organizations with which we may differ; but to affiliate, as the word implies, is quite another matter. Certainly a Catholic organization or society cannot become a part of a body which is at variance with it in fundamentals.

Need and Value of Unity

United Catholic Action contemplates all lay adult groups as a part of the Lay Organizations Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. The integrating of all and of each small organization into one whole would seem to be the simple and obvious arrangement.

This affiliation may be indirectly through the parish council, where such is in vogue; or directly through the diocesan council—a straight affiliation with the National Council of Catholic Women. The latter is always preferable, as it brings the group and the individual members into a consciousness of oneness with other activities carried on in behalf of the Church in this country and in fact in the world. Being a part of N. C. C. W. makes a group or individual a part of the International Union of Catholic Women's

Leagues, the organization called into being and carefully guided by the Holy Father.

Anything worthwhile requires some sacrifice; therefore, the dues, committee reports, and any other slight inconvenience required in securing or retaining membership is amply rewarded by a feeling of oneness with a great whole, and a sense of gratification in contributing to the general work of Catholic Action. The mutual advantages are obvious.

Future Leadership

Since the students now in our Catholic schools and colleges will, to a large extent, supply the Catholic Action leadership for the next few decades, it is important that this very evident opportunity to further the cause of Christianity by bringing home and school into closer and more sympathetic relations, be not missed or minimized.

If even the majority of the Catholic parent-teacher association units were directly affiliated with it, the Council would be justified in considering the possibility of a full-time lay worker who would devote herself to this vast field of endeavor, not only preparing and creating needed material, but coordinating reports and helping with programs, thus in time providing a suitable literature in this important project.

The Diocesan Council and the Catholic Parent-Teacher Association

The diocesan council and the district or deanery council are always the home of local groups with which the Catholic P.-T. A. participates; and the closer the association the more effective is the program. The group is stimulated and energized by the frequent contacts with council leaders.

In diocesan councils where the P.-T. A. program is authorized, the president names a district, or deanery, P.-T. A. chairman who becomes a strong and helpful part of the diocesan program, stimulating, suggesting, reporting as the need arises.

The N. C. C. W. National Committee System contemplates a net-work of chairmen—diocesan, district or deanery, and local—who act as advisors and who promote the particular project for which each is appointed.

INFORMATION

(Continued from page 11)

olic nature, and likewise has much material available which could be used by program directors.

In some dioceses—notably Cleveland—such broadcasts have been featured in the past with complete satisfaction to all concerned. It is believed that those identified with such programs, will be willing to give the benefit of their experience to others now planning radio work. There is a demand for scripts which will present Catholic facts by the question and answer method. The director of the bureau of information in Washington hopes to procure as many of these scripts as possible that he may in turn supply them to diocesan directors who expect to utilize the radio in their work.

ALTHOUGH the Central Office is making earnest efforts to give detailed answers to all requests for information that come within the scope of the Bureau, it is obviously impossible to meet the demands made by those seeking information of a purely secular character.

Cooperating With the Diocesan Council Program

Some of the opportunities for assisting the council are:
Legislative matters:

All measures affecting morals, home life, the stability of the family, the sanctity of marriage, or the welfare of children are definitely the responsibility of all council members and particularly those interested in P.-T. A. work.

A watchful eye over measures that might be inimical to our Catholic schools is important.

Positive measures, as free transportation for children attending Catholic schools, where buses were provided for public school pupils in the same locality; free text books; equipment and recreational facilities, have been successful because of the strength of the numbers interested.

Lecture Courses

Radio Broadcasts

Dental Clinics

Health Programs

Care of Handicapped Children

Cooperation With Other Agencies

American Red Cross.

Welfare agencies.

Community, civic and patriotic projects.

Records of Accomplishment Sought

In these brief articles it is impossible to more than glimpse the rich programs and varied and successful accomplishments of the Catholic P.-T. A. groups throughout the country. Discussion of the points involved in this and the other articles of the series, and additional information from interested persons, will be welcome; only in this way can a helpful composite picture of the organizations and activities in this field of Catholic Action be built.

As the series develops, at least some light will be thrown upon a movement growing rapidly in its extent and stronger in its influence.

Parent-teacher organizations in connection with our Catholic schools have now reached the stage in their development where they have the assurance of success—of difficulties overcome and the prestige that comes from worthwhile work well done.

The time is opportune for enlargement of program and even wider and more effective organization. Mutual effort and solidarity will accomplish this.

LAY ACTIVITIES IN SPOKANE DIOCESE

TO ACCOMMODATE all the members of the Spokane Diocesan Councils of Catholic Men and Catholic Women in their annual convention, Mass was celebrated at three different churches in Spokane. The Most Rev. Charles D. White, Bishop of Spokane, was celebrant at one of the Masses. Sermons were delivered by the Most Rev. Martin M. Johnson, Bishop of Nelson, B. C.; the Most Rev. Edward J. Kelly, Bishop of Boise, and the Rev. W. L. Davis, S.J.

At a joint luncheon meeting, Mr. J. E. Royce spoke on "Why Study Religion," and Miss Josephine Tyllia, "The Album of A Century."

In the afternoon a panel discussion on study clubs was given. Mrs. J. F. Clinton told "What Is a Successful Study Club." Mrs. Horace Bozarth, Mrs. S. C. Vandecaveye and Mrs. John Weber gave two-minute discussions.

Committee reports on social service, youth, legislation, publicity, organization and confraternity were given.

In his address Bishop White urged the reading of Catholic papers. His Excellency pointed to the press mention of Jewish persecution while the outrages in Spain were hardly given notice in the secular press.

Among resolutions adopted were: Cooperation in the plan to restore St. Paul's Mission near Kettle Falls, where the first Mass was said in the Northwest 100 years ago, and campaign against circulation of obscene literature.

JANUARY STUDY TOPIC: "THE FAMILY"

PRESENTED herewith is the fourth study outline in a series of eight prepared exclusively for CATHOLIC ACTION by the N. C. W. C. Study Club Committee and to be presented throughout the study club season. This series will include discussions of as many topics of common current interest, with special consideration being given to present-day social and economic conditions affecting their solution from the viewpoint of Catholic social teaching.

The N. C. W. C. Study Club Committee will present as its February study topic "The Catholic Press." All inquiries addressed to N. C. W. C. headquarters with reference to the foregoing will be gladly answered.

Importance of the Family

THE family is fundamental in society. A nation and a society are secure if their families are secure. An economic system that threatens the integrity of the family threatens the commonwealth, the State.

In the United States today the economic system does threaten the family. It harms and hampers it in many ways. Indeed our economic system is such that not a few young people hesitate even to exercise their fundamental human right of marrying and founding a family. They fear they will not be able to support a family. This is shameful, a disgrace to our country, a land of plenty.

Solution Found in Encyclical Teachings

What is the Solution? The full solution is to be found in the application of Christian principles to our economic system. That is as much as to say that it consists in the application of the teachings of Pope Pius XI as set forth in his encyclical on the Reconstruction of the Social Order. This encyclical not only sets forth the Christian principles of economics but indicates present abuses and suggests how they may be corrected. Anything that will contribute to the reconstruction of our social order will also contribute at least indirectly to the solution of the economic problems of the family.

What would seem the most fundamental and far-reaching direct solution for the unsatisfactory economic condition of our poorer American families? A Family Living Wage.

Meaning of "Family Living Wage"

What does the term, "a family living wage" mean? It means that a wage-earning man should get an income sufficient to support himself and family at least in frugal comfort. The individual has a right to marry and rear a family. Insofar as the average wage-earner is concerned the only means that he has at his disposal for supporting his family is the wage he gets in return for his labor. That wage should be a family living wage.

This concept implies, of course, that the wife and mother is not employed in trade or industry.

Are there any authoritative pronouncements on this question of the family living wage?

The family life wage is rapidly coming to be accepted in theory at least. A few statements by those in high position are given in the following paragraphs:

(a) Pope Pius XI, in the Encyclical, *Reconstructing the Social Order*:

"Every effort must therefore be made that fathers of families receive a wage sufficient to meet adequately ordinary domestic needs. If in the present state of society this is not always feasible, social justice demands that reforms be introduced without delay which will guarantee every adult workingman just such a wage."

(b) *The Pastoral Letter of the Archbishop and Bishops of the United States* (1919):

"The right of labor to a living wage, authoritatively asserted more than a quarter of a century ago by Pope Leo XIII, is happily no longer denied by any considerable number of persons. What is principally needed now is that its content be adequately defined, and that it should be made universal in practice, through whatever means will be at once legitimate and effective. In particular, it is to be kept

in mind that a living wage includes not merely a decent maintenance for the present, but also reasonable provision for the future needs as sickness, invalidity and old age."

Opinion of Leaders in American Labor Movement

Have any leaders in the American Labor Movement spoken on the subject of the family living wage? Yes, on more than one occasion. By way of example the following words of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor might be cited:

"American labor is definitely committed to the idea that the family is the unit upon which society can build constructively with best opportunities for all individuals to continue developing. . . . The man's productivity has increased more than enough to supply things formerly made in the home. His wage should increase in proportion. As a fundamental principle American labor feels it is far wiser and of greater permanent value to strive to keep the wages of the head of the family adequate to maintain standards of living for the family than to sanction the practice of outside employment of the mothers. In response to those who agree that this policy is desirable but that there are conditions under which it is necessary for both mother and children to secure gainful employment in order to bar poverty from the family hearth, we affirm it is no permanent remedy for low wages for the wife to seek employment in the factory when her husband works elsewhere. The result is inevitably lower wages for additional individuals and degradation of home standards. The only real remedy lies in an insistent and intelligent drive for higher wages for the head of the family."

Need Stressed by U. S. Bishops

The Bishops of the United States speak in their pastoral of "adequately defining the content" of the living wage. Has this been done? Not satisfactorily. However, some studies of the needs, in terms of money, have been made in the past, and on the basis of these, some general estimates or rough approximations are possible. Those that follow are for our larger American cities. Normally, less would be required in small towns.

Requirements According to Salary Brackets

(a) *Those getting \$1,000 or less.*

It must be said that a so-called standard family—five or six members—can scarcely secure the physical essentials of life from such a wage. Proper provision for such elementary items as food, shelter, and clothing is hardly possible. Family life is hampered by the type of dwelling in which the members must live, or by over-crowding perhaps or even the presence of boarders. Individual and family self-respect may be hurt because of lack of decent clothing, or because of the surroundings in which the family must live. Physical vigor may be impaired due to lack of nourishing food. Even death, particularly on the part of the very young, is not unthinkable in these families as a result of their lack of income. Studies made by the U. S. Children's Bureau show an inverse relation between the wages of the heads of the home and the rate of infant mortality. For instance, a study made in Gary, Ind., showed that for families in which the income of the head of the home was under \$1,050 a year the mortality of infants was 137.8 per 1,000, when it reached

HOW TO USE THE N.C.W.C. STUDY CLUB OUTLINES

THE material supplied in this month's study club discussion, and to follow in subsequent months, is so arranged as to be useful in many ways. It is divided in three main parts and then sub-divided. The sub-headings furnish a study outline. The following plans are suggested by experienced study club leaders:

- I. It can be handled in a general way in one meeting; or
- II. Using the suggested reading, there is sufficient material for weekly meetings during the month.
- III. It can be used in large meetings or small study groups.
- IV. In large meetings it can be used:
 - a. By general discussion in which the sub-headings, one by one, are presented.
 - b. Three short talks, each on one main part, followed by discussion or not.
 - c. One talk followed by discussion or not.
- V. By study clubs: small discussion groups following it point by point, in which everyone participates.
- VI. These study groups, meeting weekly, might join then later in conducting one of the forms under IV at the monthly meetings.
- VII. Schools and colleges: Discussion groups, class work, term papers, articles in school paper, references.
- VIII. Individuals: Preparation for leadership; addresses or articles; study and information.

For general information address the N.C.W.C. Study Club Committee, and for information relative to the School and College Program address the N.C.W.C. Social Action Department.

\$1,850, it was 89.4 per 1,000—when whites alone were considered, 60 per 1,000. A study in Johnstown showed that the death rate of infants ranged from 255.7 per 1,000 births to 83.3, quite in proportion to family income.

(b) *Families with Incomes of \$1,500 or Less.*

The numbers of this group will be able to procure the elementary physical necessities of life. But little can be expected to be left for the finer things of life—for education, for recreation, for religious and cultural activities. Nor will there be security. There will not be satisfactory provision for such emergencies as sickness and unemployment, or for old age or the arrival of an additional child in the home.

(c) *Families with Incomes of \$1,500 to \$2,000.*

At least in the higher reaches of this group one may find families with the elementary physical, social, and cultural necessities, families living in "frugal comfort."

Actual Income of U. S. Wage Earners

What is the actual income of earners in the United States? A fairly comprehensive answer to this question is found in the United States Government publication, *Consumer Incomes in the United States: Their Distribution in 1935-36*. It gives the following estimates of incomes received by the nation's 29 million single individuals living alone or as lodgers, and by the two million persons living in institutions and in military posts, labor camps and other institutional groups:

"The total amount of income flowing into the hands of families and single individuals—39,000,000 consumer units—during the year studied was found to be approximately 59 billion dollars. The poorest third of these consumer units received 10 per cent of this total—about the same amount as the richest $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent. The poorer half received 21 per cent of the total—just a little less than the highest 3 per cent. And the poorer $\frac{2}{3}$ received 34 per cent of the aggregate income—somewhat less than the highest 10 per cent.

"The families and single individuals making up the poorest third of the nation, with incomes under \$780, were not a distinct and unusual group. They included all types of consumers, living in all types of community, and belonging to all of the major occupational groups. Although almost four million were dependent on relief at some time during the year, fully 70 per cent of the total number—that is, a little over nine million—received no assistance of any kind from a relief agency. The families in this non-relief group differed from the other two thirds of the nation principally in the larger number living on farms and in the larger number of wage-earning occupations.

"The average income of this poorest third—that is, the mean income of the poorest 13,000,000 families and single

individuals—was \$471. For the middle third of the nation, with incomes of \$780 to \$1,450, the average was \$1,076. And for the highest third, with incomes ranging from \$1,450 to more than \$1,000,000 a year, the average was \$3,000, according to the findings of the report. The average income of all the nation's families the report estimates, was \$1,622, and the average for all single individuals, \$1,151."

Incomes of Those Engaged in Agriculture

What is the income of the lower groups of our people engaged in agriculture? The income of agricultural workers and share-croppers is very low, often incredibly low. A study made by the Works Progress Administration in 11 areas of the South in 1934 showed an average net income of wage hands, share-croppers and other tenants, of \$300 per family, or \$73 per person. According to the same study the average family income for wage-labor, was \$180 a year, varying from \$213 in the Arkansas River area to \$70 in the interior plains. The average income of the share-cropper family was \$312. These are averages. Some got more, some less. Many own practically nothing. Certainly none of them live in what Pope Leo XIII calls "frugal comfort." Somewhat less, however, is needed in the country as a family living wage than in the city.

Outlook for Better Remuneration

Is there anything on the horizon that gives hope for a family living wage? Nothing particularly encouraging. The present minimum wage law is a faltering, unsteady step in that direction. But, as it stands, its minimum is far from sufficient to assure the head of a family enough to support his wife and children in frugal comfort.

In Europe not a little has been done through a system of family allowances.

What are "family allowances" and what is their extent? "Family allowances," or "allocations" as they are sometimes called, seek to make special provision for special family needs. They provide increased income in view of increased family burdens. They provide for a basic wage for all male workers—whether married or unmarried—in an industry, and then a supplementary allowance to heads of families is added, the amount to be based on the number of children. Commonly they work out as follows:

Some Methods Employed

Each employer in a certain industry, or federation of employers, pays a tax equivalent to a certain percentage of his wage bill—let us say 2 per cent—into a common pool. Out of this pool he is compensated for the family allowances he pays his married workers. In this way, there is nothing to induce him to discriminate between married and unmarried men. His basic wage to all and his tax for the "pool" would

be the same whether his employees be single men or heads of families.

Many different methods of granting family allowances are found. Common among these practices are the payment of allowances to married men, regardless of whether they have children or not; to only those who have children; for both wife and children; for a certain number of children; or all children below a specified age; for all but the first or all but the first two children.

The extent of growth of the family allowance system in Europe is shown to some degree by the report of the seventeenth annual Congress of France Family Allowance Funds held in 1937. It showed 222 non-agricultural funds in 1936. Affiliated with these were 280,000 member organizations. The number of wage-earners affected was 4,803,000; the number of families receiving allowances, 1,495,000; the number of children benefiting, 2,600,000; the amount disbursed, 872,000,000 francs.

Expert Opinion on Family Allowance System

Have any outstanding American economists expressed opinions regarding the feasibility of the family allowance system? Yes, a number have written and spoken on this subject. Dr. Paul A. Douglas, of Chicago, has given the subject much attention. Rt. Rev. Monsignor John A. Ryan, after concluding that "the allowance system provides the most desirable wages policy even for the United States, Australia, and Canada," continued as follows in a paper read at the Second International Conference on Social Work, Frankfurt-on-the-Main, Germany, in 1932:

"The adoption of Family Allowances should not be left to voluntary action by employers and employees. It ought to be established and enforced by law everywhere. The basic wage, the level upon which the allowances start, should be adequate to the decent maintenance of a husband and wife. A man who is actually receiving more than the basic wage should be brought within the system as soon as and whenever his present wage is exceeded by the combined wage and allowances of a man already within the system who has the same number of children. While the administration should be adjusted to pertinent differences in different countries, state collection, custody and disbursement of the funds, with some participation by representatives of employers and employees, seem to be generally preferable to administration by employers alone. The money for the compensation funds should be derived from assessments upon the employers, not from public taxes. Industry and the consumers of the products of industry should defray all the normal costs of the worker's livelihood. Thus the burden of the supplementary wages is put upon the beneficiaries of the worker's labor, where it fairly belongs, and he is in a position to feel that his children are supported by himself not by the state."

Holy Father's Concern for Family Welfare

Does Pope Pius XI refer to the economic side of family life in his Encyclical on Christian Marriage? Yes, he refers in considerable detail to activities in behalf of families in "straitened circumstances." First of all he recalls his own teaching on the family living wage as expressed in his Encyclical on the Reconstruction of the Social Order, and that of Pope Leo XIII, as stated in his Encyclical on the working classes, warning at the same time, however, that a reasonable thrift is expected of the unmarried. Then he speaks for aid to poor families through private or public guilds, for charity on the part of the rich and for public assistance wherever private resources do not suffice. If these things are not done His Holiness adds, results such as the following may ensue: the married may lose heart, home life and even the observance of God's laws may be rendered difficult; the very State may be endangered.

Is there anything in this country that seems to correspond to the "private guilds" of which Pius XI speaks?

Work of the Maternity Guilds

Yes, the Maternity Guild. This is an agency, usually established on a parish basis, for the purpose of providing

a fund out of which the expenses incidental to childbirth on the part of any of its members are taken care of. The fund is usually developed through a system of monthly dues paid by its members, by voluntary contributions from parishioners, and by parish programs.

By the term, "public assistance," does the Holy Father only mean what is commonly called "relief"?

Encyclical Teaching on Subject of Relief

No. The State should help in still other ways. The encyclical's words on this score are: "If families, particularly those in which there are many children, have not suitable dwellings; if the husband cannot find employment and means of livelihood; if the necessities of life cannot be purchased except at exorbitant prices; if even the mother of the family to the great harm of the home, is compelled to go forth and seek a living by her own labour; if she, too, in the ordinary or even extraordinary labours of childbirth, is deprived of proper food, medicine, and the assistance of a skilled physician, it is patent to all to what an extent married people may lose heart, and how home life and the observance of God's commands are rendered difficult for them; indeed it is obvious how great a peril can arise to the public security and to the welfare and very life of civil society itself when such men are reduced to that condition of desperation that, having nothing which they fear to lose, they are emboldened to hope for chance advantage from the upheaval of the State and of the established order.

"Wherefore, those who have the care of the State and of the public good cannot neglect the needs of married people and their families, without bringing great harm upon the State and on the common welfare. Hence, in making the laws and in disposing of public funds they must do their utmost to relieve the needs of the poor, considering such a task as one of the most important of their administration duties."

Interest of Federal Government

Is the United States Government doing anything to promote better housing for the poor? It is, through the instrumentality of the Wagner-Steagall Housing Act. Under this act the Government is investing a half-billion dollars in a better housing program. This sum is only a beginning, since the law calls for a permanent program of public building.

The purpose of the law is stated as follows:

"To provide financial assistance to the States and political subdivisions thereof for the elimination of unsafe and unsanitary housing conditions, for the eradication of slums, for the provision of decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings for families of low income, and for the reduction of unemployment and the stimulation of business activity, to create a United States Housing Authority."

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N.C.C.W. UNIT FORMED in INDIANAPOLIS

Bishop Ritter's Call for Effective Diocesan Organization Enthusiastically Met by Women of Diocese

By Lenna M. Wilson, N. C. C. W. Field Secretary

OF PARAMOUNT importance in the work of the National Council of Catholic Women is the holding of national and diocesan conventions bringing together Catholic women from far and near, from urban and rural districts, from all walks of life, to receive inspiration and assistance, one from another. Notable among these important conferences are those attendant upon the initial program of organization. Usually the strength of the Catholic women in the diocese, their zeal and interest in a program of unification and coordination, and their wholehearted desire to be part of their own bishop's program as well as that of the entire body of bishops through affiliation with the National Council of Catholic Women is readily discernable at this first diocesan-wide meeting.

No one who witnessed the organization meeting of the newly-formed Indianapolis Diocesan Council of Catholic Women held in Indianapolis on December 5 could fail to be thoroughly impressed by the earnestness and sincerity of the 1,400 women who attended the all-day session to lend their support to the program of the Most Rev. Joseph E. Ritter, Bishop of Indianapolis, and to learn all they could, through participation in the sessions, through the literature on display, through conference with district and diocesan officers, of the work which they have so nobly undertaken.

Perhaps no one's joy was more complete than was Bishop Ritter's. He expressed it to the more than 900 who assembled for the luncheon meeting and again at the afternoon session when he stated that he saw before him the realization of a hope which he had cherished since his consecration as Bishop of Indianapolis. "We seek to unite all of our Catholic women in the Diocese into one federation—not to disturb or destroy them, but to federate them and to set up the machinery for assisting, stimulating and inspiring the entire group," he said. Pointing to the unrest throughout the world today and the anti-religious propaganda he stated, "the war is between Christ and no Christ and we cannot afford to lose any time in gathering our forces together in support of an offensive and a defensive battle in accordance with the call of our Holy Father himself." He urged the necessity for Catholics to be thoroughly Catholic minded, to accept and to carry out the teachings of the Church with regard to education, marriage, family life, etc., and to utilize the discussion club as a means of becoming better equipped to be true lay apostles.

THE organization meeting climaxed a series of district meetings held in Indianapolis, Terre Haute, Evansville, Jasper, New Albany and Greensburg. A total attendance of 3,700 was recorded at the district meetings. They seemed to get larger and larger, taking on the proportions of a diocesan convention. The Jasper district led with more than 900 Catholic women in attendance. New Albany brought out the boys' band to escort His Excellency to the parish hall where the meeting was held.

Each of the district meetings was addressed by Bishop Ritter, by the Rev. August Fussenegger of Indianapolis, diocesan spiritual director, and by the writer. Presiding at the various meetings were the Rt. Rev. Raymond R. Noll, Indianapolis; Very Rev. Clement Thienes, Terre Haute; Rt. Rev. Frederic Ketter, Evansville; Very Rev. Basil Heusler, O.S.B., Jasper; Rt. Rev. William Jochum, New Albany; and Very Rev. Philip Schneider, Greensburg.

Father Fussenegger likened the organization of the Council to that of a great symphony orchestra, working in unison with the bishop in whatever program is outlined to them

just as a great orchestra responds to the baton of its leader—that only through this coordination of effort could there be harmony and resulting perfection. He pointed to the great need for Catholics to interest themselves in the civic affairs of their local communities and asked cooperation with the welfare program of the diocese.

The plan of organization based on the federation of the groups in each parish into a parish council and their federation together with existing inter-parochial groups in the diocesan and national councils was outlined. The program which the Diocesan Council will seek, for the present, to foster through its affiliated units will include: discussion clubs, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, welfare work, press and publicity and diocesan missionary needs.

RT. REV. MSGR. MICHAEL J. READY, general secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, guest speaker at the luncheon paid tribute to the hundred or more priests and the hundreds of Catholic women from every part of the diocese who were there at the call of their Most Reverend Bishop. Especially did he praise those who came from great distances and at sacrifice to participate in the initial meeting of the diocesan council. "The bishops entrusted to the laity the duty and responsibility of fostering, through diocesan councils under guidance of the individual bishops, programs and activities which would insure their active participation in the life of the Church," he said. "These councils were not to be considered a new or another organization but were designed to be the medium of united action on the part of all existing societies. The full strength of Catholic lay organization was to be expressed in the union of all groups without interference with the varied purposes of the individual groups," he continued. Msgr. Ready stated that such organization is more necessary today than ever before—that if we are to be saved from the "atheistic madness rampant in many other nations, our Republic must be renewed in the determination to live by the precepts of genuine morality on which it was founded." That Catholic women have an important part to play in any program for social well-being and the necessity for their interest in every question and proposal affecting social life was emphasized by the speaker. In closing he urged personal sanctification as the first essential for real Catholic Action and declared that what the Church needs most today is Catholics who will be brave enough to cry out: "I love Christ and I will serve Him."

THE meeting was honored, too, by the attendance of Mrs. Eugene McCarthy of Cleveland, Ohio, member of the Board of Directors of the National Council of Catholic Women and national chairman of its Committee on Press and Publicity. Her sentiments were very effectively expressed in a letter which she addressed to National Headquarters following her attendance at the Indianapolis meeting: "I thought that at some national conventions I had reached the heights of enthusiasm, but the Indianapolis meeting surpassed anything that I have ever experienced." She greeted the newest council in the name of the national body at the luncheon meeting, and later spoke on "Cooperation with the Press."

The afternoon session was devoted to a discussion of the participation of the parish council in the diocesan program. Mrs. Mayme Koerner of Jasper, discussed discussion clubs; Father Fussenegger outlined the ways in which the parish committees may aid the Diocesan Bureau of Catholic Char-

(Continued on page 20)

CATHOLIC YOUTH ACTIVITIES in the MISSIONARY SOUTHLAND

By Anna Rose Kimpel,
N. C. C. W. Field Secretary
for Youth

THE Catholic youth of the Southland are enthusiastically and energetically carrying forward the banner of Christ The King, through their diocesan youth organizations in the dioceses of Mobile, Natchez and Nashville. In the fall of 1938 visits of the field secretary of youth started October 12 and ended December 10 covering the national convention at Biloxi, organization trips through the three states of the Old South—Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee. Everywhere one was impressed with the great interest in the National Council of Catholic Women and the ever-growing efficiency of the local council leaders in their work of Catholic Action. The natural interest of women in youth was aptly expressed through their continued service as the sponsors of the youth program; and the response of youth was most heartening, for every meeting was not only well attended but active participation in the parish was noted.

The Mobile Catholic Youth Organization was organized by the field secretary in November, 1936, under the direction of the Most Rev. Thomas J. Toolen, Bishop of Mobile, and under the sponsorship of the Mobile Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. This second visit showed that C. Y. O. was set up in all parishes of the Mobile, Birmingham, and Pensacola deaneries, and the Montgomery district was started. In 1938, the sponsors and youth officers, having had two years of experience, were at the meetings with definite problems and suggestions. A general youth meeting was held in each city, a meeting of the deanery and parish youth officers and a meeting of the sponsors. The recreational program of parties, sports, hayrides and dances is well planned and complementary to the real program of Catholic Action rather than as an end in itself. Two deaneries were busy with their plans for out-of-door cribs and carolling; another was rebuilding a ramshackle building into a club and everywhere evidences of vital religious activities were apparent. One group of 15 arranged last year to have one member at daily Mass, receiving Holy Communion for the group at the 6.30 Mass. According to the pastor the young people did not miss a morning all year and have planned for two to attend each day next year. The youth officers are carrying on their work in their parishes and in the deaneries, planning diocesan organization soon.

BISHOP TOOLEN at the annual diocesan convention held at Pensacola November 4-7 stressed his happiness at the continued operation of the C. Y. O. and of the Council's sponsorship. He said in part: "The N. C. C. W. brought the C. Y. O. to Alabama; without the Council we would have no youth program and without it we couldn't continue. I am depending upon the Mobile Diocesan Council of Catholic Women to carry on this work for me."

The Most Rev. Richard O. Gerow, Bishop of Natchez, in starting the youth program in Mississippi issued a pastoral to the clergy advising in part: "The National Council of Catholic Women has long been interested in developing a suitable program to meet the needs of youth. A special department has been operating under them for many years and has gained much experience that will be exceedingly useful to the pastors in the organization and continuance of this work. I have, therefore, asked our Diocesan Council of the N. C. C. W. to interest themselves in an especial manner in sponsoring a youth program in the diocese and to assist the pastors in the formation of a Catholic youth organization in each parish. We are fortunate in obtaining the services of the N. C. C. W. field secretary of youth, who will give us two weeks of her time in November."

The Natchez Diocese is made up largely of towns having one parish for white and one for colored so this meant

rapid traveling from city to city. It became a matter of three to five meetings a day, with lunches, dinners, teas and even breakfasts added. The secretary spent a day and a night in each city, conducting a general meeting of youth, of sponsors and one with youth officers. In this diocese the colored youth were organized with real enthusiasm, the pastors saying that they needed just this youth organization to enlarge the vision of their young people, to date so confined to their own parishes.

Youth officers were elected at each parish meeting and program plans for 1939 arranged. Large groups of out-of-school youth were present in each case eager and ready to work. This was especially true in the river cities, where numbers of young men are employed on the Mississippi levees as engineers and architects. Almost all reported that this was their first opportunity to meet Catholic young people. A former Memphis C. Y. O. member and one from the Chicago C. Y. O. were in attendance and said: "We were hoping it would start here too." So the results of organization on a national basis are showing.

THE Nashville C. Y. O., organized in January, 1938, had had about a year's experience when this second visit was requested by the Most Rev. William Adrian, Bishop of Nashville, to give to the youth further aid and inspiration and to effect the deanery organization of the youth organized in their own parishes during the year. The Nashville C. Y. O. was started by the Nashville Council of Catholic Women and is being continued by the members at the direction of the Ordinary.

In Memphis, Nashville, Chattanooga, Knoxville, Jackson and Clarksville meetings were held with sponsors, with youth officers and a general gathering of the C. Y. O. membership. At Memphis, Nashville, and Knoxville deanery officers were elected and plans for the first birthday parties during this month were made.

The Nashville Deanery Councils of Youth made special plans for the celebration of Christmas in a truly Catholic way, encouraging the use of religious Christmas cards and advocating "a crib in every home." Some units sponsored out-of-door cribs on the parish grounds and others sang carols.

In these three Southern missionary dioceses we have very active Catholic youth organizations, headed by youth officers working under the sponsorship of the National Council of Catholic Women.

INDIANAPOLIS DIOCESAN COUNCIL

(Continued from page 19)

ties, and general welfare of Catholics through increased interest in community welfare; Mrs. Ellard B. Duane of Bloomington spoke on the program of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; and the Rev. Dennis Spalding of Greenfield told of the missionary program and urged the cooperation of the diocesan council in making it better known and more widespread.

Diocesan officers include: Mrs. Charles L. Barry, Indianapolis, president, who presided at the afternoon session; vice presidents: Mrs. J. Albert Smith, Indianapolis; Mrs. C. H. Browning, Evansville; Mrs. Ardella Bohnert, Jasper; Mrs. Fred Mohr, Terre Haute; Mrs. Rollin Turner, Greensburg; and Miss Rose Morthorst, New Albany; Miss Elizabeth O'Hara, Indianapolis, recording secretary; Mrs. William C. Fox, Indianapolis, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. James J. Fagan, Terre Haute, treasurer.

The National Council is proud to record the organization of the Indianapolis Diocesan Council and to wish its officers and members every success.

N. C. C. W. ACTIVITIES *in the* DIOCESES

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

PROPOSALS for an energetic apostolate among non-Catholics and the fallen-away and for a strengthening of their own Catholicity were heard by the 500 women gathered at the second annual convention of the New Orleans Archdiocesan Council.

The Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, Archbishop of New Orleans, said it was not enough to subscribe to the beliefs of the Church; it was necessary to communicate these beliefs to others. His Excellency pointed to the N. C. C. W. program for study clubs, the Christian doctrine program, the Catholic literature program and the cultural and recreational program as fitting one to take up a militant Catholicity.

"The fight for Catholic principles," said the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Peter M. H. Wynhoven, spiritual director of the Council, "is the fight for the commonweal." He warned against the programs of Rutherford and of Communism.

Good example is most necessary for youth according to the Rev. Maurice Schexnayder, director of the Newman Club, Louisiana State University. He cited prayer, the Sacraments, membership in a Catholic society and recreational activities.

A model parish council meeting was demonstrated by the women of the Baton Rouge deanery.

Resolutions pledged cooperation in the care of refugees; that members will seek to live Catholic Action in their daily lives. The annual observance of Mary's Day was set for the Feast of Our Lady of Prompt Succor.

Other speakers on the program included the Rev. Dr. Joseph Buckley, S.M., Notre Dame Seminary, who told of the work of "Inquiry Classes" for non-Catholics and fallen-away Catholics; Father Buckley, who paid tribute to "The Sincere Seeker" of Msgr. Wynhoven as an ideal apologetical work; the Rev. William J. Castel, of Gonzales; the Rev. R. A. Morin, S.M., St. Joseph's; the Rev. E. Gaulrapp, who preached the sermon; the Rt. Rev. Msgr. F. L. Gassler, who, in his banquet address, compared the organization of the National Council of Catholic Women to a giant Louisiana live oak, describing the parish unit as the tiny rootlet indispensable to the oak's growth and life; the Very Rev. Gregory R. Scholz, O.P., St. Anthony of Padua; the Rev. Thomas U. Bolduc, S.M., Notre Dame Seminary; the Rev. L. E. Marionneau; the Rev. Robert Tracy; the Rev. Francis Baechle; Mrs. Henry P. Broussard, national director of the C. D. A.; Mrs. Ernest J. Robin, P. T. A.; Miss Helen C. Cahill, speakers' bureau.

Dr. Maud Loeber continues as diocesan president.

DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA

MISS BERTHA DOTY, of Rayne, La., was elected president of the Lafayette Diocesan Council of Catholic Women at its annual convention. The invitation of the Lake Charles council to meet in that city in 1939 was accepted.

Other officers elected to assist Miss Doty: Miss Lorena Spence, Lake Charles, recording secretary; Miss Theresa Tracy, Crowley, treasurer; Mrs. L. M. Oliver, Grand Coteau, auditor; Mrs. George Lessley, Lafayette, parliamentarian. The Rt. Rev. Msgr. A. F. Isenberg, Lafayette, is spiritual advisor.

The theme of this year's convention was the rededication of the members to the high principles of the Catholic Church, to make for a unified and correlated work, organized on a national basis. The delegates pledged themselves to build a strong federation to present a unified front to combat present evils and to bring greater glory to God.

The Most Rev. Jules B. Jeanmard, Bishop of Lafayette,

delivered his annual address to the convention during a low Mass at St. Joseph's at which Rev. Hubert Lerschen was celebrant.

During the convention the presidents of the various councils outlined the accomplishments, instructions and assistance given in religious education.

Standing committees reporting included Mrs. Carrie Bradley, Lake Charles, study clubs; Miss Lydia Dabova, Rayne, altar societies; Mrs. George Crouchet, Lafayette, Confraternity of Christian Doctrine; Mrs. O. J. Ory, P. T. A. and Catholic school auxiliaries; Mrs. Sidney Fontenot, Crowley, libraries and literature; Mrs. P. A. Landry, New Iberia, organization and development; and Miss Alice Gaters, New Iberia, press and publicity.

A guest speaker was Dr. Maud Loeber, president of the New Orleans Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women.

MINNESOTA STATE COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

MRS. THOMAS F. O'NEILL presided at the eighteenth annual convention of the Minnesota State Council of Catholic Women held at the Radisson Hotel, Minneapolis. The greetings from the National Council of Catholic Women were extended by Mrs. Thomas P. Ryan, national director.

Outstanding addresses included "Housing and the Rehabilitation of the Working Man," by the Right Rev. Msgr. Luigi Ligutti, president of the National Catholic Rural Life Conference; "On the Recitation of the Rosary," by the Very Rev. J. A. Foley, O.P.; "Youth in the Face of Modern Problems," by the Rev. R. G. Bandas, director of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in the Archdiocese of St. Paul; "Christian Social Reconstruction: Some Basic Principles," by the Rev. Virgil Michel, O.S.B., St. John's University, Collegeville, Minn. A Catholic Action symposium was given by Mrs. Francis E. Murphy, speaking on "Catholic Women in the Home"; Mrs. Catherine Moline Ahern, "Catholic Women in Business"; Dr. Berenice Moriarty, "Catholic Women in Profession"; and Miss Mary Hoffmann, "Catholic Women in College."

Resolutions on bettering housing conditions and watchful interest in the state minimum wage law for women were adopted.

The Most Rev. John Gregory Murray, S.T.D., Archbishop of St. Paul, gave the principal address at the banquet. His Excellency urged the Catholic women to become a vocative army, upholding Christian principles. He cited the strong pressure being brought to bear by other propaganda groups. Catholic women should go out, and working in an understanding way, remind those in authority "of the fundamental principles of Christianity, presenting them as the necessary basis for the perpetuity of the American system, strengthening your leaders in their positions of responsibility so that they may think and decide for you what is to be to the advantage of all groups and not just to the pressure groups."

Mrs. William A. Swick, of Minneapolis, was named delegate to the 1939 convention of the National Council of Catholic Women.

DIOCESE OF GALVESTON, TEXAS

THE tenth annual convention of the Galveston Diocesan Council met in Austin, Tex. The first day was set aside as "Youth Day," Mass being celebrated by the Rev. John Overend, C.S.P., in St. Austin's Chapel. General sessions for all Catholic Youth were held at Newman Hall, on the campus of the University of Texas. Olivette Osterwalder, of Houston, a junior at the university, was chairman. The Rev. John M. Riach, C.S.P., chaplain of the Newman Club, spoke on "Responsibility of the Catholic Youth Today," followed by an address by Geraldine Kleuser

on "Catholic Youth Accepts the Challenge." The Most Rev. C. E. Byrne, Bishop of Galveston, was guest of honor.

At the evening session, Mrs. Lucian R. Carroll, diocesan president, spoke on "Coordinating the Forces of American Catholic Womanhood." Bishop Byrne discussed the "Need of Catholic Union and Cooperation."

The Rev. Ambrose Smith, O.P., New Orleans, delivered the sermon at the Pontifical Mass on Sunday in St. Mary's Church.

Other speakers on the program were Mrs. Charles J. Stubbs and Mrs. J. J. Kane, Galveston; Mrs. Barksdale Stevens, Houston; Rev. T. T. Cronin, Galveston; the Very Rev. Patrick J. Haggerty, C.S.C., president of St. Edward's University, Austin; Very Rev. J. T. Fleming, president of St. Mary's Seminary, La Porte, who spoke on the Catholic Clerical Student Fund, an endowment fund for the Seminary; Very Rev. D. P. O'Connell, Galveston, spiritual director. Bishop Byrne closed the convention with the principal address at the banquet.

Mrs. Carroll, retiring diocesan president, was presented with a spiritual bouquet by the convention for her untiring work during her three years' tenure in office.

Officers elected for the coming year are: President, Mrs. Arthur McKenzie, Austin; recording secretary, Mrs. R. J. LeBlanc, Waco; treasurer, Mrs. Theodore Webb, Galveston; auditor, Mrs. Sarah B. Morris, Beaumont; parliamentarian, Mrs. Florence Konz, Austin; chairmen of standing committees are: Youth, Mrs. Lucian R. Carroll, Houston; Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Miss Irene Rickert, Galveston; Legislation, Mrs. F. A. Gerling, Austin; Publicity, May Q. Garthar, Houston. District presidents are: Austin, Mrs. Bess Wright; Beaumont, Mrs. Henry P. Cunningham; Bryan, Mrs. C. H. Gardner; Galveston, Mrs. Charles J. Stubbs; Houston, Mrs. Edmund Lorehn; Palestine, Miss Marie Louise Angly; Waco, Mrs. R. P. Hallaran.

Palestine was chosen as the convention city for 1939.

DIocese OF Toledo, OHIO

THE biennial convention of the Toledo Diocesan Council was held at the Commodore Perry Hotel, Toledo, Mrs. George N. Fell, presiding. The morning session opened with an address by the Rev. M. J. Doyle, moderator, who commended diocesan and deanery officers for a "good, conscientious job," and called on the Council to use spiritual weapons in the battle against the many un-Christian principles which in a subtle and unseen way are undermining the structure of Christianity.

Reports of officers, deanery chairmen, and presentation of revised constitution and by-laws followed. The deanery reports indicated many parish units to be functioning and more nearing organization; study clubs to be flourishing, Catholic periodicals being placed in libraries; and formation of rosary bands.

The afternoon session was devoted to a report of the National Convention at Biloxi by the Toledo deanery chairman, Mrs. Paul H. Chapman, and addresses by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Max J. Walz, chancellor, and the Rev. J. F. Frommherz, director of the Rural Life Bureau of the Diocese.

Msgr. Walz proposed a plan for the promotion of necessary advertising revenue for the diocesan newspaper which was endorsed and accepted by the diocesan council. The Toledo Deanery Council put the plan into execution immediately, appreciation cards being distributed by a Chronicle Loyalty Committee to all Catholics, together with a Readers Report with space for listing advertisers who have been patronized and with space for listing stores patronized which do not use *Catholic Chronicle* advertising at present.

Because of the declining birth rate and restricted immigration, Father Frommherz stated that America will have to look to her rural population to make up the urban deficits in population. Rural life programs today aim so to enrich country life that those born in the country will remain there and even that some of those who have left the country will return to it.

More than 250 women attended the closing banquet. The Most Rev. Karl J. Alter, Bishop of Toledo, gave the closing address. Mrs. Eugene McCarthy, of Cleveland, national director, was guest speaker. The Most Rev. James Crowley, C.S.C., Bishop of Decca, Bengal, India, who accompanied Bishop Alter to the dinner, also greeted the convention.

Bishop Alter, in voicing public protest to the persecution of the Jews in Germany, called attention to persecution of Catholics in Russia, Spain and Mexico. "Against this persecution there have been only feeble protests from the press, our fellow citizens, and from our government. We point out the obvious lesson for all to learn, namely, that persecution is a hydra-headed monster, and that the evil thing must be exterminated, not partially but whole and entire, or it will return sporadically to plague mankind and bathe the world in tears and agony."

Members of the Toledo Diocesan Council of Catholic Women were rededicated to the five projects which Bishop Alter entrusted to them: state aid for private schools, support for Legion of Decency, promotion of the *Catholic Chronicle*, development of study clubs and the fight against Communism.

Mrs. George N. Fell was reelected president.

DIocese OF Leavenworth, KANSAS

A REQUEST that every Catholic woman of the Leavenworth Diocese become a member or a leader of a study club organized under the plan of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine was made by the Most Rev. Paul C. Schulte, Bishop of Leavenworth, in commenting on the address of the Rev. Thomas K. O'Connor, diocesan director of the Confraternity, before the fifteenth annual convention of the Leavenworth Diocesan Council.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. P. McInerney, spiritual director, welcomed the delegates to the convention. About 150 women, representing affiliated groups from all parts of the diocese were present.

A special feature of the program was an explanation and demonstration of the Mass by Sister Mary Agnes, Holy Name School. A miniature altar, with miniature vestments, was used.

Three-minute reports given by representatives of the affiliated organizations disclosed many acts of charity, such as scholarships for grade and high school students, distributing Catholic literature in public stations, rest rooms and hospitals; helping the orphanages; sponsoring benefits for crippled children, assisting with religious vacation schools; protesting against demoralizing literature.

Thirty-nine vacation schools, attended by 1,633 students, was the report of Mrs. T. E. Powers. The report on retreats showed that four had been held—Topeka, St. Marys, Paola and Atchison. The Topeka retreat, sponsored by the Daughters of Isabella, attracted 700 women.

Miss Ella V. Carroll, national director, reported the eighteenth annual convention of the National Council of Catholic Women.

Miss Mary Duffin, St. Mary's Academy, Leavenworth, Kans., the winner of the annual D. C. C. W. oratorical contest, repeated her oration, "Moulding a Generation," which dealt with the N. C. C. W. and youth work.

Welcoming the guests to the banquet, Mr. Clarence Malone, Grand Knight of the Topeka Council, Knights of Columbus, paid tribute to the National Council of Catholic Women for sponsoring the National Catholic School of Social Service.

In her address on the N. C. C. W. and the Diocesan Council, Miss Eulalia Erbacher, first president of the D. C. C. W., said in part: "I feel that the N. C. C. W. program of action is vital to a healthy national life and I am confident of the Council's ability to inspire and direct Catholic lay action to such an extent that it will become a most powerful champion in the cause of God and country."

Resolutions included a recommendation that theaters and business places close on Good Friday from noon until 3

o'clock; cooperation with the Bishop's Committee on Clean Reading and the removal of demoralizing literature from sale and display.

Mrs. H. P. Boyle, Kansas City, Kans., was elected president.

ARCHDIOCESE OF DUBUQUE, IOWA

MRS. EARL R. REYNOLDS, Chicago, president of the National Council of Catholic Women, attended the eighth annual convention of the Dubuque Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women and spoke on the banquet program.

Mrs. R. J. Sweeney, Dubuque, was reelected president; Mrs. J. A. Wicke, Cedar Rapids, is corresponding secretary, and Mrs. F. J. Burke, Elkader, treasurer.

The Most Rev. Francis J. Beckman, Archbishop of Dubuque, celebrant of the Solemn High Mass of the convention, was the principal speaker at the banquet. Many priests of the Waterloo district were also present.

His Excellency flayed lax marriage regulations and urged the women to do all they could to impress upon youth the necessity for preparation and serious thought before entering into the state of matrimony. He scored hasty marriages. He urged Catholic women to study and to know their religion, and to this end he asked that study clubs be extended throughout the Archdiocese. The importance of reading Catholic papers and periodicals was pointed out and the women were asked to support them and to read them. Family prayer was likewise urged by the Archbishop.

At the banquet Mrs. Reynolds spoke of the work being done nationally by the N. C. C. W. She also complimented the Rev. William Kessler, curator of Columbia Museum, on his study club program and illustrated lectures on art.

During the banquet, messages from national directors of the N. C. C. W. were read by 12 outstanding members of the Dubuque Archdiocesan Council.

Among the noted speakers on the program of the convention, attended by Catholic women from the 15 deaneries of northeastern Iowa, was the internationally known sculptor, Vincenzo Miserendino, New York City. Mr. Miserendino spoke on Religion and Art in everyday life, illustrating his lecture by modeling, in clay, the head of one of the priests in the audience.

Resolutions passed by the convention included an expression of gratitude to the Supreme Pontiff for his guidance and inspiration, a protest against persecution in foreign lands and a condemnation of Communism.

The National Catholic School of Social Service, the one national project of the National Council of Catholic Women, was included in many of the talks at the convention. A scholarship fund was authorized and a pledge to the Maintenance Fund was made. Money is now being raised, under the chairmanship of Mrs. L. C. Miller for the Scholarship Fund.

DIOCESE OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

OUTSTANDING speakers at the sixteenth annual meeting of the Kansas City Diocesan Council of Catholic Women included the Rt. Rev. Msgr. James J. McCaffrey, vicar general, who gave the principal address in the place of the Most Rev. Thomas F. Lillis, Bishop of Kansas City, unable to be present because of illness. "This organization is banded together," said Msgr. McCaffrey, "nationally and locally, to make the Gospel as intended by Christ a living voice in the world, the leaven of salvation and the key to corporate action." Other speakers were: Miss Anne Sarachon Hooley, National Youth Chairman, who spoke on "Youth"; Miss Ella Carroll, national director, "Study Clubs and Catholic Action"; Miss Mary Wall, Leavenworth Diocesan Council, "United Catholic Womanhood."

Phases of Catholic Action and its work included in the program were: "Meaning and Scope of Catholic Action," the Very Rev. Msgr. Mathew D. Tierney; "The Deanery, Its Purposes and Functions," Mrs. Otto Schmid; "The Rural Vacation School," Mrs. W. E. Thompson; "Training Leaders in the Field of Social Service," Miss Freda Stauch;

"The Family and Catholic Action," the Very Rev. Daniel H. Conway, S.J.; "The Library and Catholic Action," Miss Felicia Finnegan; "The Needs of Youth," Miss Mary Flahive; "Legion of Decency," the Rev. C. M. Dibbins; "We of the Second Generation," Miss Nell Cummings. The Rev. Leon A. McNeill, Wichita, addressed the dinner session.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. James N. V. McKay, spiritual director, a chaplain in the World War, urged the women to take a definite stand for peace.

Mrs. John D. Wendorff was reelected president.

DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS

NOVEMBER takes us to southern Illinois where at Belleville an all day session under the chairmanship of Mrs. H. E. Sanford, of DuQuoin, was addressed by the Most Rev. Henry Althoff, Bishop of Belleville, and Miss Katherine R. Williams, formerly president of the National Council of Catholic Women. The Council was particularly appreciative of the presence of Miss Williams, following so closely on the strenuous work of the National Convention at Biloxi.

Following the Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral, the sessions were opened with addresses by Right Reverend Monsignor C. Gilmartin and Rev. Joseph Mueller.

The feature of the afternoon session was the address by Bishop Althoff. The address of Miss Williams followed.

The report on resolutions presented by Mrs. Arthur J. Fournie, deserved special commendation.

Mrs. H. E. Sanford was reelected president.

DIOCESE OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

MISS MARY P. O'FLAHERTY, president of the Connecticut Council of Catholic Women, brought out in her address before the convention, the increase in membership during the past year and urged the building up of study clubs, active interest in the coming session of the State Legislature, and increased affiliation of Catholic women's groups with the N. C. C. W. The Rev. George M. Grady commended the Council for its assistance in the CYO work and Miss Katharine E. Griffith, for work with the Diocesan Bureau of Social Service. A panel discussion on "Family and Parent Education" was led by Mrs. Thomas J. Horrigan, national chairman. The Most Rev. Maurice F. McAuliffe, Bishop of Hartford, told the meeting of a survey of rural districts now being made and said that he would call on the Council for help in religious instruction and discussion clubs. Dr. Elizabeth Morrissey, of Notre Dame of Maryland College, urged the spread of the labor encyclicals.

DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

THE Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Bishop of Rochester, extended greetings to the delegates assembled at the eighth annual convention of the Rochester Diocesan Council of Catholic Women. Addresses by members of the clergy included "Libraries and Reading" by the Rev. Benedict Ehmann; "The Catholic Theatre," by the Rev. John M. Randall; "Catholic Liturgy and Vacation Schools," by the Rev. John M. Duffy; and "Sidelights on the Institute on Industry," by the Rev. Francis B. Burns. Mrs. George W. Guerinot, Mrs. Teresa Ganster and Miss Cecilia M. Yawman gave short talks on the National Convention. Miss Mary G. Hawks, past president of the N. C. C. W., urged greater effort toward parent education. Miss Cecilia M. Yawman was reelected president.

CHRISTMAS CRIBS

Reports from every section of the country are coming in telling of the erection of outdoor cribs, the singing of the Christmas carols, and what is even more vital, the placing of cribs in hundreds of homes.

Later we shall be able to present an interesting report. Don't forget to tell us about cribs in your diocese so that we may include them.



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